

THE
AMERICAN MONTHLY MAGAZINE

AND

CRITICAL REVIEW.

No. IV.....VOL. III.

AUGUST, 1818.

AR . . . *Demetrius, the Hero of the Don. An Epic Poem. By ALEXIS EUSTAPHIEVE.* 12mo. pp. 234. Boston. Monro and Francis. 1818.

(Continued from page 206.)

“NO fairy tale is mine: no special powers,
No spirits I invoke that love to dwell
Above the earthly sphere: I speak of deeds
By human means achieved, with only aid,
Such wonted aid as Worth may claim of Heaven.”

Mr. Eustaphieve's unskilfulness in the idiom of our language frequently betrays him into the use of ungrammatical or inelegant expressions. Of such the most common is the omission of *the* before a noun, or its improper insertion. His punctuation is also, in very many instances, most absurd. “*With only aid*”—of what? of heaven? No: for *heaven* refers to *worth*. If not, there ought to have been a comma at *claim*. Perhaps he intended that *heaven* should refer both to *worth* and *aid*. Thus the sentence may be interpreted different ways—“I speak of deeds achieved by human means, with only the aid of Heaven; such aid as worth may claim of Heaven.—Or—With only such aid of Heaven as worth may claim.—Or—With only such aid as worth may claim of Heaven. It must be allowed, however, that generally his language is perspicuous.

His invocation to the Deity—

“To thee, O God! from whom all wisdom flows,
To thee alone my pray'rs ascend! O deign
To guide my timid steps to that proud height
Where fain my bolder spirit would repose!
Instruct me in the choice of devious paths
That to the sacred fane of knowledge lead,
Where, hid from mortal sight, of many an age

The hoarded treasures safely lie! send forth
A ray of thy divine unerring light,
That, while it shows me the abode of truth,
I may, in accents loud and measur'd sound,
Call ancient heroes from the silent grave,
And rescue from oblivion's whelming shade
Their virtue, deeds of valour, just renown.”

The direction of this invocation appears to us to be highly improper. Milton with great propriety might solicit such inspiration as guided Moses and Isaiah: his theme was theological. But at once to request the Deity to instruct or inspire a man in the execution of a work acknowledged to be altogether a fiction, is *outré* and audacious. *Prayers* is never two syllables, more than *tares*. It cannot be so sounded; though *hour*, *fire*, and other words of one syllable, might. Hence it ought not to have the apostrophe. The note of admiration is used unnecessarily. This is a fault common with many. What is its use? He who can read with propriety needs it not: and, to those who cannot understand what they read, it can be of no advantage. We have generally remarked that, where there is neither sublimity nor pathos, the destitution is supplied by abundant notes of admiration. We know a certain professor of the belles lettres who forbids its admission on any occasion.—We know not why the poet should request to be directed in *devious* (indirect or erroneous,) paths to knowledge. In asking for more

knowledge than was ever granted to mortals the poet has been vastly disappointed: the grants to him having been far less than to others. He would reach that temple of knowledge where "the hoarded treasures of *many an age*" lie *safely*. Whether this is knowledge possessed by the Omnipotent only, or mere mortal knowledge hid in a fane on the "proud height" of some vast hill, we should not have been able to ascertain, had not the author declared it "hid from mortal sight." Nor can we discover why, in this work of *fiction*, he wishes to have shown him "the abode of *truth*." Many years ago a man fell into a dock, in Boston, called Oliver's dock. The circumstance was noticed by the Rev. Dr. C——y, in his prayer, the succeeding Sunday.—"Thou knowest that thy servant fell—during the past week—into—not into the—the deep—nor was overwhelmed in—in the mighty waters—but fell into—into—Oliver's dock," &c. One of the good doctor's parishioners, the next day, observed to him that he had made bungling work with the man who had fallen into the dock. "Yes, yes," said he, "I wish I had let him alone; had let him stay there." This may be the case with our poet—his heroes are past sensibility and consequent suffering: they will for ever remain ignorant that their "just *renown*" is "rescued from *oblivion's* whelming shade." This seeming bull may, however, perhaps be reconciled to propriety, by supposing that the heroes were formerly renowned.

Next comes a dedication to the emperor of Russia.

"Star of the North, whose radiance mild, yet pure,
Auspicious on delivered Europe shines!
Thou, boast and joy of Slavia's present race,
The pride and living glory of our age,
The first in eminence, second in name
To him, whom Persia and the eastern world
Subdued of yore, had fear'd, but never loved.

* * * * *
Oh that I could approach thee undisguis'd
And sing thy deeds confess'd! Impossible!
It is the future Poet's happy lot."

There are some verbs of the past tense which, particularly in the pulpit and on solemn occasions, are pronounced with one more syllable than are the same in common conversation and common reading: "Belov-ed brethren—bles-sed spirit," &c. but, with very few exceptions, both in poetry and prose, the *ed* ought not to make an additional syllable. It is, therefore, altogether unnecessary to use the apostrophe in such words as *loved*, *reprieved*, &c. The apostrophe would be as

proper in prose as in poetry.—In what respect is the emperor *second* in name to Alexander the Great? Does the author mean, that Persia and the eastern world subdued Alexander, as the grammatical construction declares; or that he subdued Persia?—The punctuation is, as before observed, often most incorrect. Why is a comma inserted after *thou*? It would compel us to read—Thou—had feared, but never loved. A colon ought to succeed *yore*.—We cannot conceive it to be impossible!!! for a *poet* of the present age to sing "the deeds confessed" of Alexander; however difficult it might be for the author of Demetrius.

We have next a dedication to the empress, including a sub-dedication to the empress dowager, and about a score of *admirable* notes—thus!

"And thou, sweet partner of his sceptred toil,
Who shar'st, most worthy thus to share, his throne
Imperial! Noble Christian! Pious queen!
Kind friend! Illustrious female! Spotless wife!
The widow's joy, the orphan's mother, pair'd
With that exalted One whose fruitful womb,
Thrice bless'd, bore Europe's Saviour to the world,
Thy Alexander! Thou Heaven promis'd fair*
To Glory's sons in whom the wise delight
And whom the virtuous imitate: whose zone
That girds thy nation's dignity, shines most
With modesty and grace, all feminine,
Far brighter than the jewels of the crown!
* * * * * Thou whom great ease to serve
Is sole complaint of thy attending train.
* * * * *
Bestow thy gracious, all benignant look
On this thy humble poet's humble mite,
With boldness, sprung from overflowing heart,
Laid at thy feet!"

The poet after a profusion of compliments and eulogies, then proceeds to inform her majesty that this dedication was written while he was on his passage to America last autumn, in the North Sea;

—————"Borne on a crazy bark,
A prey to winds and waves, from peril toss'd
To peril, far beneath the northern sky,
Inclement, vext with blasts, and pouring down
A world of whelming snow and *clashing* hail!
What though his foothold be the slippery deck,
His prop the rocking mast? [Curious question.]
Intense and firm,
Like some *fixt* monument, he stands, sustain'd
By one great glowing thought."

It is to be regretted that he did not transplant any such thoughts into his work. "Thou Heaven promis'd fair," &c. cannot be understood. In the same predicament is the sentence commencing with:

* "Elizabeth means, *promised of God*, (upon oath.)"

"Bestow thy gracious," &c. means it—bestow thy look with boldness—or—my mite with boldness sprung from [an] overflowing heart?—We are surprised that our author, in the storm, did not stay in the cabin, or keep his birth.—The three pages of this dedication thus concludes:

———"Wilt thou accept
The homage, stamp'd so deep with [the] seal of
Truth?
Wilt thou, as lately on his lighter task,
On this his greater labour smile! [No question
here.] A doubt
Would wrong thy generous soul. Thou wilt....
Enough!

If the lady understands English, there can be no doubt of her frequent smiling. The bard now begins to feel the epic fire; and kindly informs his reader, what otherwise he might never have suspected:

"Methinks, I feel within the force divine!
My soul aspiring soars above the earth!
Obedient Time his mysteries unveils!
Past, present, future, in one picture glow!
And lo! a scene majestic greets the sight!"

The poet now plunges *in medias res*. We shall give the story as we proceed. As there is not a page, in which there is not much demanding correction or censure, to notice all such sentiments, words or passages, would extend a review to a volume. On some of them, however, we shall animadvert, *en passant*.

"Scarce yet the earliest ray had gilt the sky;
Scarce Fancy, swifter than the wings of time,
Had met the sun below earth's level pois'd,
And left the eye to linger in suspense;
Scarce yet had wak'ning nature left her couch,
And from her tresses shook the morning dew;
While light and shade maintain'd a dubious
strife;
Unusual bustle and commotion strange
Ran rapid through the streets of fair Kazan," &c.

After *scarce* we generally expect *ere*, *when*, or some similar word. It was scarcely *daylight*, and the morning *dew* was scarcely dissipated. At what time in the morning the bustle commenced the reader must discover for himself. No matter: there was a horrible commotion; for

"Thousands by thousands were impell'd along,
Until the earth beneath the burden groan'd;
The massy walls, that girt the city round,
Shook with the tempest laboring within."

Without being immediately informed of the cause of this uproar, we are introduced to king Morna.

———"His hoary locks
In floating rings their riper honours show.
He seems an aged oak, whose loftier head,
And larger boughs, in richer foliage clad,

With broader shade protect its fellow trees.

* * * * *

A beauteous fair blooms on his either side.
This on his right, that, like a blushing rose,
Shuns the soft kisses of the morning breeze,
And, with Heaven's mildness pleading in her
eyes,
Teaches e'en love to spare, who, but for this,
Had long, ere now, transfix'd her tender heart,
Is lovely Selima, the monarch's joy,
His pride and only child. That, on his left,
Zorana nam'd, who, like some hardier plant,
Fearless of winter's blast, with prouder look
And bolder front, seems destin'd to repel
The shafts of love and frowns of adverse fate,
Is Selima's companion, bosom friend,
An orphan from illustrious parents sprung
And early to the royal care bequeath'd."

The next person, to whom we are introduced, is a scoundrel of a prime minister, whose name is Orcan. This gentleman has the confidence of the monarch.—Morna rises from his throne. A dead silence ensues as he is about to speak:

"There's not an ear but eagerly expands
To catch and treasure up each precious word."

He informs the multitude, that his troops, under the command of Brono, are returning from victorious war:

"From the embattled field and War's rude toils,
Back to the calm delights of wished-for home."

Wished is sufficient without *for*. The best writers avoid as much as possible such unnecessary use of words—To make up a hundred—to bind over as an apprentice—to return back—let the door be shut to; &c.—At this information the mob rejoic'd; Selima dropt the tear of joy; and

"The wily Orcan's sycophantic brow
Conceal'd dark secrets rushing to his face."

The sun was now up; and

"The gilded domes, and spires, that tower'd high,
Caught the descending brightness, and convey'd
To humbler roofs."

Tower'd should no more be made two syllables than *sour'd*, *flower'd*, *roar'd*, &c. The spires, we suppose, conveyed brightness to humbler roofs, as the moon conveys to us a portion of the sun's rays. The army is seen at a distance. At length it arrives.

"'Tis he! 'tis they!' resounds from mouth to mouth." [Q. ear?]

"'Tis they" was never English, though formerly used for such. The officers and soldiers appear, with

"Polish'd helmets, where the sun, surpris'd,
Views its reflected form; the waving plumes,

The richest tribute of the feather'd world,
Which cheated fancy deems a *living* flight."

Mercury had wings on his feet: but we know not how the most wayward fancy could suspect that men should fly with wings on the top of the head. With Brono, the chief, come two youthful strangers: so fair that the ladies are cautioned not to look of them.

"Oh turn not! Listen to my warning voice!
Mistrust, thou gentle Selima, the Power
Which has, till now, forborne t' invade thy peace!
Love cannot wait for ever." [No note of admiration here.]

The name of one of these gallant officers is Trouvor; that of the other Osmond. They are both what the Kentuckians call *heart-smashers*: for the ladies are at once overcome:

—————"Sensations new,
Mingled, confus'd, invade their breasts; they pine
With wishes that they dare not scan; with fear
They tremble, sigh with pain, with pleasure blush;
Pant for relief, yet dread to be reliev'd;
Seeking for hope, they gain despair; and, bent
T' escape, they but pursue their certain fate."

This is falling in love by wholesale. At first sight to pine, sigh, blush, pant, dread, seek and despair, is a very expeditious mode of doing business; and saves the bard a world of trouble in describing the various changes in the progress of this master passion. Brono approaches to kneel before the king. This the monarch prevents: and presents him a precious chain. Brono declares he has only done his duty; and that this gift is, therefore, a *gratuitous* bounty. He extols the two stranger knights, and recommends them to royal favour. The knights are led by the monarch to the ladies. Selima gives a wreath of laurel to Trouvor:

"But oh!—her treacherous tongue will not supply
One single word to give the action grace.
With down-cast eyes in vain she calls to aid
The various thoughts with which her fancy teem'd:
The rebels fly and heed not her distress."

What is *one* word but a *single* word? The last of the above quoted lines savours much of poetry. We wish it had more companions. Zorana is offended because the more favourite knight seems pleased with Selima, and Selima with him. She gives a wreath to Osmond in a very cold manner: but he, not much given to love, takes it as coldly. All now go to a feast, and spend the day in revelry.

We have now a long description of a strange animal called POLICY; who is quite a creature of consequence in the poem. It lives "on a barren peak,"—"midway 'twixt heaven and earth:"

—————"Ambition's eldest born,
In hell engender'd after Satan's fall.
* * * [an] Eternal smile
Plays on *her* lips, and yet beneath that smile
Eternal murder lurks. * * *
This monster of no sex, and yet of both
Partaking, * * *
Now like some subtle spirit works *his* way
Through the *impervious* barriers of defence,
Encompassing the various states; or through
The *far less penetrable* magic walls
That guard the inmost seat of human thoughts:
And now, a giant swoln, he with one step
Bestrides the world," &c.
"It onward to the Palace speeds, nor stops
Until, by no obstruction check'd, * * *
It Orcan's chamber gains. * * * They both
Sleepless, in private converse pass the night,
And part not till the first faint gleam of morn."

The critics have long since condemned the introduction, as actors, of such personages. A short personification is often beautiful. Of this monster Mr. Eustaphie says, it "*works his way*"—"a smile plays on *her* lips—and—"it onward moves." Such puerility was probably mistaken by him for genius, or for a beauty; the beast being one "of no sex yet of both." Thus concludes the first of the seven cantos of the poem.

The second canto opens with the morning of the succeeding day: when the two knights visit Brono, the military chief; who makes a long harangue consisting of five pages, on the subjects of peace and war; the question, which should be preferred, being about to be decided by the monarch. He inveighs against Orcan, who is in favour of peace, and whom he suspects to be in league with the enemy, whose chief is Mamay; in whose character the poet seems to intend a picture of Bonaparte. He deplores the influence exercised by Orcan over the king, whose character he highly exalts; but declares that the government is in the hands of Orcan.

—————"When the virtuous reign
The wicked often govern. * * * Morna, void
of guile,
Himself the mirror where he views mankind,
Follows delusive light; *not real* light,
But that which is reflected by his own:
And thinks all honest, who, by copying him
With ease may so appear."

The meaning is evident, in the declaration that when the virtuous reign the wicked often govern: but the words might be transposed with equal propriety:—

when the virtuous govern, the wicked often reign. Light is not the less *real* for being *delusive*. Brono asserts that before Orcan came to Kazan,

"A needy, hungry, bold adventurer,
Houseless and ragged; * * the realm
By wholesome counsel and sound *Policy*
Was rul'd most prosperous."

This we presume was not the *Policy* with whom Orcan was so familiar, nor any relation of that monster; but entirely of another family. The poet, however, ought to have given both cognomens; lest, peradventure, a careless observer might mistake the one for the other. After urging the necessity of continuing the war, Brono's speech is interrupted, ere finished, by a summons to attend the king.

—————"All three
Obey'd the summons, and with haste repair'd
Where, midst his lords, in simple majesty
The Monarch sat."

The palace is described, where

"Marble columns rose;
And with their lofty heads, with cornice crown'd,
Prop'd up the high arch'd roof, whose broad
concave * *
Presented to the wond'ring gaze below
The empire's great domains, unfurl'd entire."

That the roof was not propt down by the columns we know, without being informed that it was propt up. We are a little surprised that Mr. Eustaphieve does not perceive how much the majesty of poetry is diminished by the introduction of such useless words. *Concave* should have the accent on the first syllable. History makes the Khanate, in ancient times, populous and extensive: it must however have been, at this time, very small; or the roof very high; if from it the kingdom could be "unfurled entire."

The monarch, in a short speech from the throne, declares that he shall be governed by his council, whether to continue the war against the Tartars, or rest "on their laurels" in peace. Brono makes a long harangue in favour of war: uttering harsh reproaches against one *Intrigue*, an

—————"Abject, low born worm
* * * that in the palace lives,
And in the cottage dwells, despised by all,
Yet hurtful, fatal, when it is not crush'd."

This appears to be a relation of Orcan's *Policy*; perhaps the same, under a different appellation. He urges the propriety of continued war till Mamay is destroyed. Though himself a warrior,

he disclaims fighting for fun, or because it is his trade.

—————"Should it be said
War is my trade, and therefore is my choice,
The charge so foul and wanton, ere 'tis made,
With honest boldness I repel. Heaven knows
I never can be, never was the wretch
Who fights for fighting's sake."

Orcan, assisted by *Policy* and *Intrigue*, makes a highly poetical and argumentative oration in favour of peace: giving due praise however to the eloquence and integrity of Brono.

"Yet he is just, and justice he will grant,
Nor think all those disloyal, or devoid
Of honour, who may differ from himself;
Whose error (and who errs not?) from the head,
Not from the heart proceeds."

He uses one urgent reason for concluding a peace:

"Sooner or later we must end this war;
Then why not now?"

And ends his speech in the following majestic manner:

—————"Much I respect
The arguments of the illustrious chief
T' uphold the war; yet, *with due deference*,
I think we can command, and therefore should
Obtain, a lasting honourable peace."

Trouvor is outrageously enraged at the sentiments of Orcan; and is about to reply; but is prevented by Osmond; who, fearing his brother knight might do some mischief in his wrath, attacks Orcan tooth and nail, like a valiant knight as he is: whose cause he declares bad;

—————"Which dares not call
Plain sense and reason to its aid, but tries
To pass under some surreptitious form,
By fancy conjur'd up."

He also is of opinion that Mamay should be utterly destroyed; asserting, with three successive and successful rhetorical similitudes, that his strength and ability to do mischief remain unimpaired.

"No, Sire, we've only crack'd the *shell*, and left
The serpent safe within. We've brush'd away
Th' ensnaring *web*, while in his secret hold
The tyrant, he that spread it, still remains
Unhurt, full eager, watchful for his prey.
Soon as some *branches* were struck off, we stopp'd
And pluck'd not growing mischief by the root,
Which last we should and might have done, but
which
We left undone."

How precisely is this in the sententious manner of Milton; a vast thought expressed in a few words. Mamay, it ap-

pears, demands the gentle Selima in wedlock: Osmond says,

—————"Policy,
Good Policy forbids so vast a boon
Bestow'd gratuitous."

Ah, here we have the distinction: *Good Policy*. This belongs to a race of Policies distinct from that connected with Orcan; which we may hereafter designate by the epithet *Bad*. Such a matrimonial connexion he considers dishonourable.

—————"I pass
In silence what I deem the greatest loss,
The loss of honour, from our broken faith,
Which, in the eyes of honest, thinking men,
From victors to the vanquish'd would reduce
Our character."

Should we not mar the pleasures of curiosity, we might here admit our readers to a secret. "Broken faith" has reference to a promise that Selima shall become the wife of the prince of Moscow; which prince of Moscow is this very Trouvor in disguise; whose name at home is Demetrius; the hero of this very heroic poem. Trouvor now makes a speech, and gives the character of Demetrius, alias Alexander; and of Mamay, alias Bonaparte;

"A wretch, an outcast from the lowest herd,
A vile usurper, who by crimes alone
Rose to that power which he by crimes alone
Hopes to preserve. * * *
There's not a crime
Devis'd in fancy, or—conceiv'd in thought,
Which this unheard-of monster has not yet
Committed. * * * The poor
Deflow-er'd virgin, or dishonor'd wife
* * * are but his jest, his scorn
The daily food of his unbounded lust. * *
He has not yet, through will, mistake or chance,
Perform'd one, single, puny, doubtful deed,
Such as at least might virtue's semblance wear."

After a page or two of similar invective, Trouvor desists. Orcan suggests that a stranger, and perhaps obscurely born, is too officious in offering his advice. Trouvor clasps his sword. Osmond interferes. The king, as kings often do when they cannot control an unruly parliament,

—"Surpris'd, perplex'd, and unresolv'd
Which side to take, and how to act, at length
Bethought himself the council to dismiss."

We now enter the third canto.

—————"The very day
That next in Time's eternal order came,
Beheld all, save its own bright smiling form
Chang'd in Kazan."

The day looking at its own *form* would furnish a fine subject for a fanciful painter.

Brono had slept but little. He sends his squire, Arcas, to learn whether the king has determined on war or on peace. Squire Arcas returns. His countenance at once satisfied the chief that peace was the order of the day.

"Untold he saw it in his servant's eye."

Brono exclaims: "Then all is o'er!" There is something extremely expressive and pathetic in this expression:—it's all over then.

—"Deep, mortal was the cruel wound
He now receiv'd; and piercing, fatal came
The swift wing'd shaft, sped by a treach'rous
hand,
That reach'd, at length, his loyal heart."

The wound being mortal, it was deep: being fatal, it was piercing; and, at length, being mortal and fatal, it reached his heart. The effect of this wound was almost immediate. He became "an old, feeble and dying man:" yet we are informed that

"His mind, unconquerable, soon resum'd
Its wonted strength, and over death itself
Victorious made him."

And he makes immediately his dying speech.

"Wherefore this grief? Fail thus your hearts
to see
An old man die? 'Tis but a moment's pang * *
And oft man's frame, that stood the fiercest shock
Of time and war, and elements combin'd,
Droops, sinks and crumbles into dust, when touch'd
With keener edge of mental agony."

Such was the manner in which "his mind unconquerable resumed its wonted strength."

—————"Nunc vulnus acerbum
Conficit, et tenebris nigrescunt omnia circum:

He dies, from want of fighting; and quite in a theatrical manner, though not much like a soldier.

—————"I die—
Oh Trouvor—Osmond—Arcas—all—farewell."

This old gentleman is so important a personage, we part with him not without reluctance. We wish the poet had made him of less consequence, or continued him longer on the stage. Trouvor continues by the corpse; his grief in part assuaged by meditating on Selima.

—————"This lovely form
By nearer objects here with quicker force
Embodied, and in absence present made,
Forsook not Trouvor in his saddest hours."

Osmond departs privately by night: his intentions unrevealed. Brono is buried: and Trouvor delivers a funeral oration. We have, in this oration, some instances of the most astonishing hyperbole.

"In vain the *trembling universe* again
The succour of thine arm herculean shall
Implore; more than herculean arm: so strong
That mountains, whereon stood the foe, secure
In fancy, shook beneath its pond'rous blow!
In vain! Thy godlike aspect, which alone
Controll'd the motion and the raging sea
Of war; thy ample *shield* and sword
Avenging, which no living mortal now
Can wield; thy shoulder of *Atlantic* make,
On which Kazan reclin'd in safe repose;
Thy giant-foot beneath whose heavy step
Rapid and wide, the daring guilty East
Trembled and prostrate groan'd; thy wondrous
power
'Gainst which no fickle fortune could prevail
No kingdoms stand:" &c. &c.

But, *ehu jam satis*. What a pity that a little "fickle fortune" should have prostrated such a tremendous creature. But, he is dead, and *lachrymæ voluntur inane*. He who

"Scorn'd threat'ning ills, soar'd above hostile
fate,
Incessant toil'd impetuous warr'd, and storm'd
Impossibility's own rocky hold,"

sunk at the sight of peace. This speech, of six pages, excited great tumult: but

—————"The solemn voice
Of [the] same sepulchral bell"

called the multitude to the burying ground

—————"With *marble stone* enclos'd
Of *sombre* [not light coloured] *black*:"

where they

"Forthwith plac'd him *conqueror of death*,
Not victim, in the 'valley of the dead.'"

Trouvor goes to bed; and has a vision. Two figures, "large as life," (being two men) come with daggers to assassinate him. A "guardian angel," with her

—————"Radiant face
Conceal'd beneath [an] air-wave *transparent*
veil,"

that "seem'd a *living spirit*"—(a dead one would be shocking) saves his life, by her kind interference. Thus terminates the third canto.

The next morning Trouvor is arrested on a charge of high treason, and his sword demanded. He too must have been a fellow of enormous size; for he asks which of those who are come to

arrest him, can "sustain erect the ponderous weight" of his sword. He is full of wrath, and utterly refuses to yield. The messengers fly. Arcas pacifies him, speaking "with much *concernment*:" informing him that

—————"The sword
Suits not the mild authority of peace;
But, war and violence being o'er, *offends*
When it *defends*."

He proceeds to the hall; where

—————"Niggard light,
Ill borrow'd from heaven's rich exhaustless fount,
Slow ooz'd through narrow casements."

Here all is explained. The relation is long; but we can give the substance of it in a few words. Orcan and Mamay in disguise were the conspirators against the life of Trouvor. Selima overheard their previous conversation, and prevented his death. Orcan, being detected, begs his life, and promises to tell who is his companion. "Not while I live," says Mamay; and, so saying, seizes him, lifts him on high, and dashes him on the marble floor; so that breath he never more utters. Thus end the days of Orcan. We are not grieved in parting with him; for he all along seems to be an ugly dog. Mamay confesses who he is; and frightens the court with a declaration of his power to upset the kingdom, if inclined.

—————"The subtle *frost*,
Shed from Fear's bristly hair, congeal'd each
heart
Save Trouvor's.

The Tartar claims Selima; and

—————"With Tarquin-stride
Moves towards the trembling fair."

("With Tarquin's ravishing step towards his
design
Moves like a ghost." *Macbeth*.)

Trouvor interferes; and makes himself known as prince of Moscow, Demetrius. Mamay challenges him to meet the next day in single combat; each with a squire, and no other attendant. The challenge is accepted. Selima is near fainting; but, hoping her father will prevent the intended duel, she recovers.

The fifth canto commences with an address to love; not exactly like the address of Lucretius to Venus; as it contains some sentiments of which the Roman poet could have no conception.

"In fiercer natures cast in hotter moulds,
Uncheck'd by virtue strong, or self-command,
Thou art a flying conflagration dire,

Compress'd within that massive iron globe,
The dreaded child of modern *slaught'ring* war,
Which, as it rapid rolls through hostile ranks,
Bursts sudden, vomits death, and with its torn,
Forth flaming entrails spreads, afar and wide,
Its own destruction, and of all around."

Cowley says:

"Wo to her stubborn heart; if once mine come
Into the selfsame room,
'Twill tear and break up all within,
Like a Grenada shot into a magazine."

Of these two "similies unlike" we cannot decide which is the inferior. The former needs grammatical amendment.

Zorana is represented as sorely afflicted with love for Trouvor, and jealousy and malice towards Selima: but more than all does she curse one Fate, and daringly proposes to upset all his decrees:

—————"But thee,
Thee chiefly, Fate, whate'er, where'er thou art,
I curse—thee from my very soul I loathe!
Yet hope not to subdue me; I defy,
I scorn thy utmost power! I'll be myself
A counteracting Fate!"

While Zorana is meditating revenge against Selima, the latter goes to the temple and prays to the Blessed Virgin. She is interrupted by the appearance of Demetrius, who had strayed by moonlight to the spot where she was. A quantity of love talk ensues. Selima concludes one of her speeches with: "My heart and hand are ever thine." To which the prince replies: (if it be blasphemy let the censure fall on the author:)

—————"And what could God
Say more, if on a mortal he bestowed
His universe?"

"He gently strains her to his heart," and bestows "love's first glowing kiss." They spend the night together; finding

"Within themselves a *world unknown*; and this
Exploring they forgot th' exterior world."

Daylight appearing, like Romeo and Juliet, the fond lovers are compelled to separate. Demetrius is equipt for combat. Zorana

—————"Resolv'd to view the scene,
From which Selima's softer soul recoil'd."

The accent has heretofore been placed, (erroneously we consider it,) on the antepenult of Selima: here it is on the penult.—Zorana, after viewing what had transpired respecting the combat, visits Selima; who was ready to go into fits. She asks what is the fate of Demetrius; having a dagger in her hand; intending

to use it, if her beloved is no more. This drops from her hand, on being informed that he is alive. Zorana then relates that the prince is a captive to Mamay; who had treacherously provided troops to bear him off; his squire, Arcas, also proving treacherous.

A dreadful tempest in a forest is described in the sixth Canto. There is also a long description of superstition; whose

—————"Streaming hair,
Presents a floating mass of sombre clouds
Involving all below in deeper gloom,
A second night twice darken'd."

which, according to Pike's Arithmetic, is equivalent to four nights—darkened. Demetrius is conveyed to a cavern, in which he finds Mamay and his officers. The Tartar insults him with bitter jokes, not unlike those of Satan, on the invention of cannon. Demetrius reproaches him with great dignity and severity; till Mamay is in a violent rage:

"Cold were the red-hot lightnings to the fire
That glow'd within the furnace of his heart."

The prince is sentenced to be shot. A lantern is placed at his breast. A bandage is about to be put over his eyes, when, like Admiral Byng, he exclaims:

"Desist, base man! Nor think I dare not look
Death in the face!"

Suddenly a groan most tremendous was heard: the tree to which he was tied was gone, and his chains melted. In such manner, the poet says, for some wise purpose Heaven did not appear to save D'Enghein. Mr. Eustaphie here lavishes high encomiums on Great Britain and the United States, particularly Boston, for resisting or condemning the murderer of D'Enghein.—The prince is confined a fortnight in his dark cavern; the description of which, and of his manner of passing his time, remind us of Cowper's description of the Bastile. Arcas, who had joined Mamay only for the purpose of saving the prince, takes him from the cave, leads him out of the forest; and conveys him into a subterraneous city of dead men's bones.

"On human skulls they trod, and bones that
form'd
The solid pavement. Grop'd his wide-stretch'd
arms?
The skulls and bones they touch'd. Search'd
ought [aught] his looks?
The skulls and bones at ev'ry turn they met.
Above, beneath, around, whate'er he press'd,
Beheld, or felt, of skull and bone was made,
Of ev'ry fragment of the human frame."

Arcas informs Demetrius that he and another had been ordered to bring to Mamay his head. He endeavoured to persuade his companion to join him in rescuing Demetrius. His companion refusing, a quarrel ensued, and his associate was killed; whose head, carried by Arcas to Mamay, was by him believed to be the head of Demetrius.—He also informed Demetrius, that, centuries previous, some persons, digging into the earth, struck upon human skeletons, supposed to be the bones of some army slain in battle. The bones were placed in order; and a sub-city built under Kazan. This in process of time was forgotten except by a few; but was well known to Mamay; who had access to it; and, by the assistance of Orcan, through certain secret passages, he could at any time find his way unobserved into Kazan.—Arcas also informs him that Mamay was determined, that night, to destroy Kazan and bear away Selima.

Thus concludes the sixth Canto.—The story of the city of bones under Kazan is a puerile invention; below the genius of the meanest imitator of Anne Radcliffe. The miraculous aid to save Demetrius when prepared to be shot, is the only instance of the use of machinery. It would have been more agreeable to the general tenor of the work to have saved him by human means only. *Nec deus intersit*, &c.

We now come to the seventh and last Canto. Demetrius and Arcas are discovered entering the cave where are concealed a great number of the troops of Mamay. Demetrius, like Leonidas at Thermopylæ, meets the leader and his companions at the narrow entrance, where multitudes are slain. At length Squire Arcas shuts for ever the ponderous gate; and for ever encloses the tenants within. The prince and his squire, now, by a secret path, ascend into the midst of Kazan. The temple is on fire. Some relations are given of the manner in which many are rescued and many are lost, not totally dissimilar to what occurred when the theatre at Richmond was destroyed by fire. A son drops his mistress, to save his mother. This accomplished, he returns to his mistress, and both are overwhelmed in the conflagration. Fire now marches to the inner temple;

"Grim Terror in his front advanc'd with crest
Uprear'd, and desolation in his train
Press'd on with rapid pace."

Fire is personified, and a long description is given of his havoc:

VOL. III.—NO. IV.

— "Wild flares his gristly hair,
In quiv'ring columns parts, and with the wreaths
Of smoke entwin'd, waves streaming to the sky."

In this inner temple are the king, Selima and Zorana. The prince seizes Selima,

"And bears the precious charge to healthier spot."

Morna and Zorana are rescued. A full length picture is given of the conflagration, which bears a close resemblance to the burning of Moscow by Bonaparte.

"It seem'd as if the heavens themselves alarm'd
Lest the gigantic conflagration mount
Their highest seat, drew up a dark array
Of sombre vapours, dense and humid clouds,
That, pending down in sable, tent-like, form,
Threw round a vaulted barrier of defence."

The king having given Demetrius his ring, the signet of power, he takes command of the troops, to oppose those of Mamay, which had entered, or were now entering the city.

— "Here, there,
And every where, his vengeance strikes."

The Omnipotent now sends

"His swiftest, mightiest spirit of the storm;"

to quench the fire by a sudden tempest. This spirit strikes the earth with the same wand that was used by Moses at the Red Sea, when he struck the rock, for water.

— "He strikes—
And thrilling tremor creeping through her veins,
Convulses all her frame. Scarce 'gainst such
force
Can her vibrating axis hold. She reels,
She groans, and quick, obedient to the stroke,
Opens her wat'ry stores."

The fire subsides. Demetrius meets Mamay, whose right hand

"A pond'rous weapon grasp'd, such as no arm
Save his could wield: the other held an orb
Of massy weight and size, as if design'd,
From Heaven's own dread artillery to shield
His vast enormous bulk."

He attacks the Tartar, dealing a deadly blow with his uplifted blade. A sudden thunderbolt shivers in pieces his sword. He snatches another from a comrade; but Mamay retreats before he can use it. Most of Mamay's men are destroyed: though some escape by means of a sudden excessive darkness,

— "Such as night
Eternal wore, ere Sol's keen-searching ray
Had first pierc'd through her sullen reign."

["Dark as was chaos ere the infant Sun
Was rolled together, or had tried his beams
Athwart the gulf profound." *Blair's Grave.*]

Demetrius is missing: his troops are in great distress, being distractedly in love with him.

"They love Demetrius, first for Brono's sake,
Then for his own tried worth; and such their love,
Had they a conquer'd world to share; *the world*
And all their lives they'd gladly give, to catch
One distant glimpse of their heroic chief."

We now come to one of the most touching scenes in the whole work, in which the poet appears to have centred all his powers over the pathetic and pathetically descriptive. Demetrius had gone far beyond the city gates in pursuit of Mamay; and, it "being so dark, Hal, that thou couldst not see thy hand before thee," he and his gallant steed fell into "a deep-sunk treacherous chasm." As several pages are occupied in the biography of this wonderful steed, we cannot conveniently indulge the reader with the whole: he must however be gratified with a part.

"Six circling years have now elaps'd, since first
This noble animal sprang into life
Beneath Arabia's happiest Heaven. Far-fam'd
Bucephalus, that Persia's conqueror serv'd,
Nor ever to another mortal bent
The stubborn knee, was the reputed sire,
Whose blood, from race to race transmitted pure,
Now mantled in his veins. In tender youth,
While yet disporting with his anxious dam,
He was the glory of the choicest stud,
The pride of the surrounding fields. When time
Gave matchless grace and beauty to his form,
Resistless vigour to his pliant limbs,
And wing'd his feet with tempest's speed, he liv'd

In *Pelaces*, with princes lodg'd and fed,
And by the hands of royal maids caress'd,
A mighty Queen his earliest prowess tried."

This queen, with this steed, long fought Mamay. She was ordered, in a vision, to renounce paganism, turn Christian, be baptized, and look to Kazan for a husband. She married Brono: was some time after taken sick, and died one day. To Brono,

----- "Ere yet
He had departed to the tented field,
She, on her death-bed, as a pledge of hope,
Of dear remembrance, of invok'd revenge,
Her *only treasure*, sole remaining prop,
Her darling steed bequeath'd; whom now she call'd

Zormandel, by her own far sounding name
Else quite extinguish'd. Fierce, proud,
He bore a second Jove in Brono's form.

* * * Sorely he griev'd,
When Orcan, lord of all by Brono's death,
Possess'd him. * * * Freed from disgrace,

With ecstasy of joy, he gave himself
To Moskow's prince, the heir of Brono's fame."

The genealogy and services of this quadruped hero are related with great spirit, and much pathos. Caligula's horse fared not more sumptuously; nor was he cared for by maids; nor his "prowess tried" by a queen. His blood being "transmitted pure" from the time of Alexander, it is reasonable to suppose, that his ancestors were all educated with their natural masculine powers, and that he was now in his natural state. The queen, it appears, bestowed on him her own name to save it from oblivion: if we rightly read the meaning of the poet—"her own far-sounding name, else *quite extinguished*." Recovered from the shock occasioned by the fall, the prince seeks

"His fellow in distress. He hears him nigh
Breathe heavy, feels his noble neck bedew'd
With life's warm copious stream."

The blood-letting proves beneficial, and saves the expense of a horse doctor. Demetrius fears to raise the steed lest he should have another tumble in the dark: therefore

"With gentle hand he lifts the *patient's* head,
And pillows it upon his royal knee,
Waiting day's dawning light: and when soft sleep
Stole on his weary sense, the grateful steed,
Fearing to break his master's rest, lay *still*,
Quiescent, as if life forsook his limbs."

There's a horse for you: unlike

"Such as now live in these degen'rate days:"

the best bred, most accomplished and tender hearted, as well as, at proper times, steel-hearted, that ever was celebrated in song, humble or heroic.—In the morning Arcas finds, one or both asleep, the prince and his princely steed.

We are now informed from what cause Mamay had run away from Demetrius. Many years before, Mamay, having plundered Samarkand, took thence "a suit of black gigantic armour." Whoever wore it was to show no mercy to the foe. He needed to fear none living: but must beware of one

----- "That died
But lives again, and rides a milk-white steed."

Mamay had supposed Demetrius dead: seeing him alive and on a milk-white steed, he was quite nonplussed; like Macbeth when informed that Macduff "was from his mother's womb untimely ript."—The battle is renewed in the morning.

Demetrius performs wonders: makes a road through foes, which is soon covered by the enemy, and he left unsupported. He sees Arcas dismounted: flies to his relief; takes him from the ground; puts him behind on Zormandel, who bears them, double-jaded, with pride and pleasure, from dreadful dangers; "Gen'rous unrivalled steed"!—A terrible force is at hand, that puts all into a horrible quandary of trepidation, excepting Demetrius and Zormandel:

—————"Zormandel, in whose looks
Dumb nature spoke most eloquent, appear'd
Full conscious of the danger, well prepar'd
Not to survive his lord."

A very sensible and fellow-feeling horse: Heaven grant he may be preserved and be the sire of an unextinguishable offspring. Fortunately, instead of enemies, the new troops were a body commanded by Osmond, who, like Achilles, had retired from the war for a season.—Mamay is confident of victory, believing Osmond's troops to be his own. He is, however, soon undeceived, and perceives that he has but the fragment of an army, his forces changing sides.

"His hopes, his choicest strength, were swept away.
The sever'd rear a viper's palsied tail,
Cut off and bruised, was all he now possess'd."

This comparison is excellent: the second instance of genuine poetry in the work; and, being on the penultimate page, we despair of finding another.

Mamay's troops are totally defeated. We close with the poet's last words.

"Of all the Tartar Horde, its savage chief
Remains alone. Not e'en [ev'n] a satellite
Is left, since all were one by one dispatch'd
To various posts of danger, where they lie
The food of Vultures. Tears of blood distain
The tyrant's cheeks. He gnash'd his teeth, and beat
His head against the rocks. He gnaw'd his flesh,
With rage convulsive foam'd, and in the dust
Wild-bellowing roll'd. At length with sudden start
He rushes through the forest, speeds a skiff,
By fortune spar'd, across the Volga's flood,
Dives deep into the wilderness, and thus
Leaves all pursuit behind. Where'er he flies
Echo repeats his curses and his vows
To move all Asia, Earth, Heaven, Hell itself,
Against Kazan and Moskow's hated lord."

The instances of bad metre are not numerous. Of such as there are however some are quite glaring. Mr. Eustaphieff may find the authority of example for ending one line, and beginning another, in the following manner:

—————"His own
Distress. * * *
—————Shall
Deplore."

Words so closely connected, however, ought never to be thus separated.

"The power we now over his person hold."

We notice many lines in which the fifth and seventh syllables are improperly accented.—Some lines are truly barbarous.

"To thee unmix'd, to us mingled, alas." p. 120.
"Quite powerless, of life bereft." 144.
"Commenc'd nature's long cherish'd prodigy." 153.
"Unnatural compound, where shadow mixt," 158.
"Where Slavia's children are nurs'd in the lap." 167.
"But thou shalt fall, never, never to rise." 207.
"Then from his quiv'r the foremost arrow draws." 219.

There are many instances of faulty grammar—"Ill suits me"—for—It ill suits me. p. 38.—"Allow us pursue our own." 49.—"If father sleep within thee." 57.—"That sigh was [the] last." 67.—"The eye of [the] multitude." 102.

—————"Thy joys,
Though differ in degree, are yet alike." 122.

"Thou wert [wast] alarmed." 135.—"By moon's pale's torch." 156.—"Where Carbon and the Nitre mix." 201.—We are, however, rather surprised that there are no more instances of incorrectness of this kind, the author being a foreigner.

As observed by Mr. Eustaphieff the fable may with propriety be discontinued, or extended to another volume. The approbation or disapprobation of the public may determine him whether or not to proceed. We fear self-love, too high an estimation of his talents, and the civility of friends, may induce him to continue the work. To construct verses in rhyme requires only the application of certain rules: blank verse is of more easy execution. It is merely mechanical: and Mr. Eustaphieff has mistaken this power of cutting iron knitting needles of suitable length, for that of gathering golden ore in the mines of intellect. He has mistaken the material part, the body of poetry, for the soul. He may however console himself with the reflection that he has greatly failed in a great attempt; and will have a great many companions to sympathize with him in his fall.

ART. 2. *The History of Europe, from the Treaty of Amiens, in 1802, to the Pacification of Paris, in 1815. Being a Continuation of Russel's History of Modern Europe.* By CHARLES COOTE, LL. D. 8vo. pp. 552. London. 1817.

HERE is another of honest John Bull's historians, who sets out with a preface of professions about "studiously aiming at the strictness of truth," and having "no sinister motives for reproach or animadversion." Indeed, he has no doubt, that, as he is going to be "as heroic as a mule" in maintaining the truth, he shall bring the whole hive of cotemporary authors about his ears; yet, relying upon his own fearless independence and spotless veracity, "he is emboldened to tread the arena of politics, and to defy the censures of prejudice and malignity." He was perfectly safe in so doing; for, so far as our own knowledge extends, no person has thought it worth while to take up his arguments, or interrupt his stories; and we suppose he might go on to "tread the arena" and "defy" mankind till doom's-day, without the least fear of an encounter.

Yet many may read his book, though none will take the trouble to censure it. A book always acquires value by importation; and, as we Americans are ever anxious to hear what Europeans say about us, our readers may be amused with an extract or two from the chapters of this courageous historian. It was to have been expected that, when the animosities between this country and Great Britain had found time to subside, the English writers would begin to have some little regard for truth; and that those especially who should undertake to compose a sober history of our transactions, would seek information in other sources than the polluted columns of ministerial newspapers. But experience only confirms the saying of Lord Lyttleton about his own countrymen: "It is a rule with the English, that they see no good in a man (or a nation) whose politics they dislike."* This champion of truth and defier of malignity has incorporated into a serious volume of history—which he tacks to a more celebrated work in order to ensure its permanency—all the malicious falsehoods which have been bandied about in the English gazettes, and refuted in the American, any time these seven years. We venture to say, that a man shall read through the book; and, on being interrogated as to the part which relates to America, he will not distinctly remember any thing

but the surrender of Hull, the capture of the Chesapeake, and the irruption into Washington. Thus, for instance, the capture of the *Guerriere*, the *Macedonian*, and the *Java*, are slurred over in the table of contents as "maritime engagements;" while the affair of the Chesapeake stands out by itself, as the "engagement between the *Shannon* and the Chesapeake." The three former battles occupy just three sentences; the latter takes up a paragraph alone.

"The Americans (says the generous man) were frequently successful in actions with single ships. Their vessels were built on a much larger scale than British vessels of the same dimensions: in weight of metal, and in the amount of seamen, they are nearly equal to our ships of the line; and it may be added, not only that many of the men were natives of Britain or Ireland, but that, from the small number of the national fleet, it was far less difficult to fill the ships with experienced seamen than for the English navy to provide a complement proportioned to its uncommon extent. The *Guerriere* was so severely treated, in an engagement with the *Constitution*, from the causes which have been stated, that it became an 'unmanageable wreck;' and the killed and wounded almost quadrupled the number of republicans who suffered from the collision. A contest between the *Macedonian* and a frigate called the *United States*, had a similar termination, and the attendant loss was much greater. The *Java* was also captured, with a considerable loss of its brave defenders."—p. 392-3.

It appears to us, that we have heard of "a frigate called the *United States*;" and, if we mistake not, she was a "bunch of pine boards" before the English had scraped acquaintance with her. She became a line of battle ship very speedily after she had flogged the *Macedonian*. As to a "collision" which the "republicans" had with the *Guerriere*, we are total strangers; and, if there was ever a "similar termination and a greater attendant loss," with any other frigate, we know nothing of the matter. All we can say is, that a collision between a certain frigate, called the Chesapeake, and a certain other frigate, ycleped the *Shannon*, is here detailed at full length. We now hear of the

—"glory which the British marine acquired in an engagement near the port of Boston. Broke, commander of the *Shannon*, having

* Dialogues of the Dead, No. XIV.

long watched the Chesapeake frigate, beheld with joy its approach to action. He had only 330 against 440; and, in the weight of metal, the enemy had great advantage (wherefore he rejoiced and was glad): but no consideration of hostile superiority could discourage his men, who, after a short firing, boarded the American ship, and subdued all opposition. Seventy-nine were killed or wounded in the Shannon, and one hundred and seventy in the Chesapeake: Captain Broke, who first leaped into the vessel, received great personal injury; and Lawrence, the republican commander, died of his wounds."—p. 453.

The petty skirmish on lake Erie was one of those actions with "single ships," we suppose, in which the "hostile superiority" of us villainous republicans was somewhat successful. Yet a stranger would hardly know that the battle had ever been fought, if he should never read any thing but the account of this LL. D.

"Some naval engagements (it is said) occurred on the lakes. On that of Ontario, Sir James Yeo could not effectually prevail over Captain Chauncey; and, on lake Erie (it might be worth while just to mention *en passant*), Barclay found an able opponent in Perry, with whose squadron (of 'single ships,' mind) he had a close conflict. Each attributed to the opposing commodore a superiority of force; but it does not appear that the disparity was considerable. The chief American vessel, though disabled, was not captured, because the Canadians were too fully employed (they had business enough, it is true) to take advantage of this apparent surrender. When both parties had sustained a severe loss, five British vessels, of which only two were dignified with the appellation of *ships*, fell into the power of the enemy."—p. 452.

Sir James Yeo did take most effectual measures to "prevail over Captain Chauncey;" who—the skittish republican—went scudding about lake Ontario, as he well knows, with the bold Sir Knight at his stern. It was villainous of Captain Chauncey! Barclay, it seems, had a "close conflict" with Perry; but, as the American vessels were manned with "natives of Britain and Ireland," it is no wonder they flogged the "natives of Britain and Ireland" on board the British. As to any affair which might have taken place on lake Champlain, it is unworthy of particular mention; being, as it was in very deed, only a collision between some boats which got together; and, after spanking and spattering each other for a time,

agreed not to play any more. That huge vessel which now lies at Whitehall is merely a fabrication out of an American "bunch of pine boards;" for these republicans are always cheating the people with seventy-fours in disguise. This is the spirit, though not the precise language of this impartial chronicler. But we could not make more light of the affair than Doctor Coote does.

"Sir George Prevost, (says he) with above 10,000 men, marched into the territory of New-York; and, while he meditated an attack upon Plattsburg, near lake Champlain, trusted to the effective co-operation of a small squadron commanded by Captain Downie: but this officer lost his life at the commencement of the action, and all the vessels were taken; and, when the troops, after a fierce cannonade and bombardment, were advancing to the assault, they were recalled by the general, although the garrison scarcely exceeded the amount of 1500 men."—p. 490.

In fine, the reader will find in this volume a tolerably detailed account of every action in which the English were victorious, with a casual mention of such as turned against them; nor are the latter ever alluded to, without telling us, immediately after, how we were flogged in some other place to make it up. We shall close our extracts with the account of the siege of New-Orleans.

"An attempt was made for the reduction of New-Orleans. In assaulting the lines formed for the defence of the town, Major-General Packingham lost his life; and the resistance was so serious and resolute, that, although Colonel Thornton had forced a strong position on the other side of the Mississippi, the enterprise was abandoned. Fort Mobile, however, was attacked in the sequel, and taken with small loss."—p. 490.

"Thou art a very simplicity man: I prithee peace." Our readers will observe, that we have not attempted any serious refutation of the falsehoods which these extracts contain. They have been refuted often enough before; and the only way left for us Americans is, to bring up every *Coote* of this sort—laugh at him—and let him go. They can do us little hurt; and the devices to which they resort to cover up their disgraces, will, in the eyes of all the world, be the very means to expose them the more. In the mean time, let us look to ourselves. Who continued Ramsay's *History of the United States*?
P. II.

ART. 3. *Outline of the Revolution in Spanish America ; or an Account of the Origin, Progress, and Actual State of the War carried on between Spain and Spanish America ; containing the principal Facts which have marked the Struggle. By a South-American.* 12mo. pp. 219. New-York. Eastburn, & Co.

IN touching on the splendid and animating theme presented to our contemplation in the little volume before us, we scarcely have an eye to its merits as a literary composition. We feel a loftier impulse working within us, and kindling our faculties, than any, which as mere critics, we could experience. We are not analysing with minute and rigid circumspection the structure of a sentence, or the justness of an observation : we are not dispersing the mists of fanaticism, nor engaged in the more odious task of unmasking the demon of infidelity. Our imagination, indeed, is actively employed but in a sphere infinitely more glorious, and abounding in objects inexpressibly more exciting than the fairest and brightest creations of the muse. We are not languishing over a finely-told series of imaginary sorrows, nor glowing with a vain and vague delight through scenes of visionary rapture.—No!—the subject of our discussion, rich as it is in pictures both of the most distressful and transporting description, borrows none of its interest from mere fancy ;—suffering, intense human suffering—the groans and the agonies, the triumphs and, devoutly do we trust, the approaching liberation of millions, starting from the long and heavy sleep of a slavery that threatened to be immortal ; the speedy expulsion of every hostile foreign foot from this great western world ; the establishment throughout its regions of a pure and rational liberty ; the progress of civilization, arts, commerce, and refinement ; the desert itself bursting forth into bloom and verdure, beneath the footsteps of a power who, though she may be born in the mountains, will not refuse her presence to the plain and the valley ; the spectacle about to be afforded to the human race of an entire continent, or rather two continents, not merely existing under a republican form of government, but flourishing under its auspices in a degree, and with a rapidity which, but for one illustrious example, might have been deemed unattainable even by the most sanguine philanthropist ;—the greatness of the sacrifice, the immensity of the benefit ; the new and glorious lights in which the character and capabilities of man will shine out in the consequences of this momentous revolution ; the steadiness, the

majesty of his march, and the unsullied splendour of his achievements under this new and magnificent dispensation, are all combined in one grand *tableau*, to which moral considerations attach an interest of a deeper and more dignified nature, than can possibly be raised by fiction, however pathetic in detail, or glowing with passion.

We shall precede our observations upon the great and eventful struggle of the South-Americans with the mother-country, by a brief view of the vast and interesting regions which have witnessed the contest, regions which nature seems to have been solicitous in endowing with her choicest gifts of utility and beauty, and destined to become the seats of that knowledge, refinement, and liberty, which the present state of Europe threatens to exile from their ancient abodes.

The southern, like the northern continent of America, bears but a slender affinity, either in its form or its products, to the old world, where, however the defects and comparative parsimony of nature have been redeemed by the genius and perseverance of her inhabitants in a manner that proves to what a pitch of grandeur the human character may attain, in despite of all the evils produced by governments, varying only in the degrees of their noxiousness. Scarcely a league of its coast that is not intersected by some navigable stream ; the interior of the country is irrigated by innumerable rivers, and half the fleets of the globe might congregate on the waters of the Oronoco or La Plata. Bays and convenient harbours abound along the whole of the *littorale*, and the enterprising spirit of a free people, in connecting by a canal, or a system of canals, the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, might change the face of the world. The Andes, the Alps of South-America, stretch on each side of the equator through nearly 60 degrees of latitude. The divisions of this immense chain, however, vary considerably in their height, being occasionally not more than 600 feet above the level of the sea, and at certain points towering to an elevation of almost four miles from their base. Of these the gigantic Chimborazo appears to be the chief, the height to which it ascends, being equal to the united elevations of *Ætna* and the Peak of Teneriffe.

Under the equator, the average elevation is reckoned at 14,000 feet, while that of the loftiest chains of European mountains scarcely exceeds 8,000. The breadth of this stupendous range is various—60 miles at Quito, and in Mexico and some districts of Peru, nearly 200. Cliffs or ravines of an astonishing depth intersect those portions of the Andes which rise in Peru and the extensive region of New-Grenada, but to the north of the isthmus of Panama, the altitude of this wonderful ridge gradually declines till it terminates in the vast and lofty plain of Mexico. The metallic riches of the Andes, more particularly the central portions, appear inexhaustible, and a more enlightened system than that in vogue under the Spanish government, promises an increased and increasing supply of the precious metals. The vast advantages which the possession of these treasures place in the hands of the inhabitants, are, however, counterbalanced in some measure, by circumstances peculiar to this division of the globe, and indicative of the exuberant energy with which the whole system of nature is replete in climates situated under the tropics. Earthquakes of the most tremendous description occur through the entire chain of the Andes, and the power of fire is here displayed in all its awful and destructive magnificence. The whole country from Cotopaxi to the southern ocean, may with perfect propriety be termed a *region of volcanos*—more than forty being in a state of perpetual ignition—throwing forth streams of lava—or involving the neighbouring districts in a tempest of fire, water, and scorified basalt. Cotopaxi itself, is situated to the south-east of Quito, at the distance of twelve leagues from the Peruvian capital. Of those volcanos whose eruptions are recent, Cotopaxi is the loftiest, and its ragings have a grandeur and solemn fierceness far surpassing those either of the old or new world. Its explosions are more frequent and dreadful, and the immense heaps of ashes, and masses of rock, which it has already ejected from its entrails, and spread over the vicinity, would form, according to a witness entitled to implicit credit,* a mountain of gigantic magnitude and stature. In 1738, the fires of Cotopaxi ascended nine hundred metres above the rim of the crater. In a subsequent eruption, the thunders of the volcano were audible at the distance of two hun-

dred leagues, on the banks of the Magdalena. In 1768, the vomited ashes were in such quantities, and so unremittingly ejected, that at Hambato and Tacanga, day broke only at three in the afternoon, and the inhabitants were obliged to use lanterns in walking the streets. The explosion of January, 1803, was distinguished from preceding eruptions, by a singular and alarming phenomenon, the sudden melting of the snows that covered the sides of the mountain. Twenty years had elapsed previously to this devastating eruption, and during that period, neither smoke nor vapour had been observed to issue from the crater. In a single night, the heat of the volcano became so intense, that at sunrise the exterior surface of the cone appeared naked, and of the dark colour peculiar to vitrified scorice. At Guayaquil, fifty-two leagues distant, day and night, the roarings of the mountain, resembling the discharges of artillery, were heard; and on the Pacific Ocean, south-west of the island of Puna, were these tremendous sounds distinctly audible.

Cotopaxi is remarkable for the beauty and regularity of its form. In these respects, it surpasses all the other giants of the Andes. A complete cone, enveloped in a mantle of snow, at sunrise, at sunset, its aspect is wonderfully grand. The snow filling up every cavity, no rocky prominence disturbs the placid emotions arising from the contemplation of its splendid uniformity. The elevation of its cone exceeds six times that of Teneriffe.

From the physical construction and peculiarities of the country, the valleys of the Andes exhibit to the traveller an aspect singularly contrasted with those of Europe. The plains of Peru have an elevation above the level of the sea greatly surpassing that of the old world, and the gigantic forms of Chimborazo, Cotopaxi, and Antisana, when *beheld* from the lofty lands of Riobamba and Quito, (nearly three thousand metres above the ocean,) lose something of that sublimity with which the mind invests them, when we *read* of mountains twenty thousand feet and upwards in height. The spaces between the ridges are rather crevices than valleys. The vegetation at the bottom and sides is vigorous, and the depth occasionally so great, that the nocturnal birds, peculiar to the new world, make their residence in them, and are frequently observed flying in flocks of thousands over the streams and torrents that at once fertilize and refrigerate these cimmerian recesses. Yet though of such great actual

* Humboldt's American Researches. Section the Tenth.

depth, the lowest surface of these valleys is usually so comparatively lofty, as to equal three-fourths of the elevation of St. Gothard and Mount Cenis. The rocks forming the sides, or rather walls, of the valley of Icononzo, are remarkable for the regularity of their appearance. Rising from a surface nearly level with some of the loftiest mountains of Europe, the ridges joined together by the natural bridges of Icononzo reach to the height of nearly nine hundred metres. The name of Icononzo appears to be indigenous, since it is the appellation of an ancient hamlet of the Muysco Indians at the southern extremity of the valley. The approach to this singular and secluded spot is not unattended with danger. Humboldt is the only traveller who appears to have visited it, and he makes emphatical mention of "the dangerous descent of the desert of San Fortunato, and the mountains of Fusagasuga, leading towards the natural bridges of Icononzo." The torrent rushing along the bottom of the valley, is denominated the Summa Paz. Part of its course is directed through a cavernous aperture, or crevice immediately under the second bridge, (sixty feet below the first,) and then discharges itself through a chasm about eight metres square. Entering this crevice on the west of Doa, the stream forms two beautiful cascades. It rises in the eastern chain of the Andes, in the province of New-Grenada. The valley and the torrent are, in all probability, the result of volcanic agency.

What Rome was to the ancient, Mexico is to the new world. Its present population is stated at more than 300,000 inhabitants. The site of the modern capital is that of Montezuma. The streets are ranged in the same lines, but the canals have been gradually filled up. The appearance of the city since 1769, when it was visited by the Abbé Chappe, has assumed considerable splendour, the patriotism of the inhabitants having embellished it with several magnificent structures. Among these the building appropriated to the school of Mines, deserves particular mention. It was raised by the tribunal of Miners, at an expense of more than half a million of dollars, and is said to be worthy of the finest capitals of Europe. The great square occupies the site of the ancient temple of Mexitli. To the right stands the vice-regal palace, built by Cortez. The palace in which Montezuma lodged the Spaniards, stood behind the cathedral, and that of the emperor on its right, opposite the viceroy's mansion.

The Plaza Major, or great square, is adorned by a fine bronze equestrian statue of the *royal Fowler*, Charles the Fourth, father of the present ruler of Spain, by Don Manuel Folsa, a Mexican artist. Great praise appears to be due to the perseverance, as well as the skill of the artist who had to "create every thing," and to contend with innumerable difficulties. Pity so noble an example of talent and fortitude should be so disgraced by its subject. A statue of Las Casas would, indeed, have been an ornament to the first city of a world, between whose natives and their tyrants, his benevolence undauntedly interposed. The form of the square is irregular, and includes a second. To correct this in some measure, the statue has been elevated on an enclosed platform. It is fifteen decimeters above the level of the surrounding streets. The oval, whose longest diameter is a hundred metres, is decorated by four fountains, connected together, and closed by an equal number of gates, to the great discontent of the natives. The bars of the gates are ornamented in bronze.

The city of Mexico, in respect to population, is superior to any of the capitals, either of South or North-America—the number of its inhabitants amounting to more than three hundred thousand. Its former site was, at the period when it fell under the dominion of the Spaniards, surrounded by a lake, and the city was connected with the opposite shore by three extensive causeways: but since that period, the waters of the lake have been considerably diminished by the supplies received by a canal cut through the mountains, and Mexico, though occupying the same ground as the capital of Montezuma, now stands on the shores of the lake, in a sort of morass, intersected by canals. The softness of the soil, has rendered it necessary to build all the houses upon piles, and such of the public buildings as have been raised without this precaution, (among which the cathedral, a superb edifice, deserves particular mention,) have sunk more than six feet in the ground. Externally, the city presents an irregular appearance, but the interior, as appears by the map of Auteroche, rivals the cities of the United States in the regularity of its dispositions. The streets are of considerable width, straight, and cross each other at right angles. Besides the Plaza Major, Mexico is embellished with two other squares—that of *San Selador*, where the bull-fights are exhibited, and that of *San Domingo*—both of which are regularly and handsomely laid out.

and ornamented with fountains. To these may be added the *Alameda*, or public promenade, a square completely surrounded by a stream of water, and rendered still more pleasant by the large and beautiful *jet d'eau*, which throws forth its sparkling and refreshing columns from the centre of the square. The *Alameda* is intersected by eight broad walks, shaded on each side by two thickly-planted rows of trees. The private buildings of Mexico are, generally speaking, good,—some of the public edifices might be compared, without disadvantage, to those of the same class in Europe. The city is, however, disgraced by that most abominable of all jurisdictions—the Inquisition—which has here established one of its detestable tribunals. The *Quemadero* is described as an enclosure environed by four walls, filled with ovens, into which are precipitated the miserable victims of inquisitorial cruelty. The abolition of this infernal institution, is one of the desirable results to be rationally expected from the success of the patriotic arms.—It would be folly to suppose that prejudices which have been the growth of ages, are capable of being eradicated instantaneously, or that the elevation of the people of South-America to the dignity of an enlightened race of beings, should take place immediately on the establishment of their liberties. The prize they are now contending for is sufficiently glorious, and the efforts they are making for its attainment, sufficiently ardent and persevering, to entitle them to the good wishes of every humane and liberal mind, without our requiring from them those extensive changes and improvements in their moral and religious system, which can arise only from a thorough conviction of their reasonableness and utility—a conviction, we may observe, that will, in all probability, be much slower in its birth, than the political revolution which is now sounding its joyful alarms, and marching in the fulness of its triumphs, from the southern to the northern—from the western to the eastern—extremities of a continent for the first time vocal with the strains of freedom. Their independence once secured, and their rank as free and sovereign states vindicated, their statesmen and influential characters, will then have leisure to direct their attention to the ameliorating of the moral and intellectual condition of the people, and in the universal diffusion of schools and seminaries, to lay a certain and solid foundation for those important changes in the minds of their countrymen which instruction alone

is competent to effect. That many of the enormities linked with, and forming, indeed, part, of the old system, will at once vanish, cannot, we think, be reasonably doubted.—That instead of the resources of the country being drawn off to supply the wants and rapacity of the Spanish court, or the ridiculous pageantry of its viceroys, the revenue will not only be moderate, but devoted to its only legitimate purposes, (those involving the interests of the new republics,) is an immense advantage, and one of the natural consequences of the revolution;—their separation too, from Spain, by withdrawing them from the sphere of her policy, disentangling them from her quarrels with other powers, and thus leaving them at full liberty to pursue in peace the true objects of national interest, must be esteemed a benefit of unspeakable value to the rising states of South-America,—nor should the important advantages be overlooked or underrated, arising from the free intercourse they will enjoy as neutrals, not only with Spain herself, but with *all* powers at war with the mother-country;—the mutual and unrestricted communication between the United States of South-America, must not be omitted in this glance, slight as it is, at the important benefits necessarily resulting from the new order of things in that extensive and favoured region of the globe, and, if we are at all justified in the supposition that, with the example of North-America before their eyes, the political edifice of our southern neighbours will be built on corresponding foundations, additional causes for rejoicing will present themselves, in the reflection that the new world, as it has given the *first*, will also offer to mankind the *second* example of the superior adaptation of the republican form of government to the best interests of society.

Viscardo, the author of an interesting tract on Peru, estimates the population of Spanish America at 18,000,000 of souls. The number of inhabitants in Mexico alone is calculated at 8,000,000, that of Venezuela at 800,000, and ten or twelve millions for the vast regions of Peru, Chili, Santa Fè, and Buenos Ayres, is surely no exaggerated estimate for countries so far exceeding, in territorial extent, the kingdom of New-Spain. In 1748, the population of Mexico amounted, according to the returns made to the receiver general, to nearly 4,000,000—a number which Clavigero, the celebrated author of the History of Mexico, esteems too small by at least half a million. The Almanac of Mexico for 1802, contains the

following table of marriages, births, and deaths, in the fourteen parishes into which the city is divided:

<i>Parroquias.</i>	<i>Matrim.</i>	<i>Nac.</i>	<i>Muert.</i>
Sagrario - - - -	260	1493	920
San Miguel - - -	60	403	256
Santa Catalina - -	95	714	476
Santa Veracruz - -	65	545	236
San Joseph - - -	53	374	162
Santa Ava - - - -	78	351	230
Santa Cruz - - - -	32	527	206
San Sebastian - -	49	411	227
Santa Maria - - -	46	280	354
San Pablo - - - -	96	603	262
Acatlan - - - - -	21	90	54
Salto del Agua - -	24	187	97
La Palma - - - -	10	116	53
S. Antonio - - - -	9	61	43
Total	948	6155	3581

It is impossible not to be strongly impressed with the immense difference between the births and the deaths, and we cannot avoid concluding, that a place in which the former nearly double the latter, must be one of the most salubrious on the globe. Dr. Price supposes that in healthy districts the proportion of births to the whole population varies from 1-35th to 1-60th. Now, the medium, 1-48th, will give about 300,000 inhabitants to these fourteen parishes; and it is upon this foundation that Alcedo, a native of New-Spain, and author of an admirable geographical work (*Diccionario Geografico Historico de las Indias Occidentales o America, ad verb, Mexico*), states the population, comprehending the suburbs, at 350,000. "*El vecindario se compone de mas 350,000 almas de todas clases y castas.*" In addition to what we have already said on this subject we would observe, that in a statistical report drawn up by one of the commissioners from South-America, who met with General Miranda at Paris in 1797, the number of inhabitants in the whole of Spanish America, is stated at 20,000,000. Upwards of twenty years have elapsed since that period, and though the progress of population may have been somewhat retarded by the war which has raged with such unparalleled fury for the last nine or ten years, yet we can scarcely suppose that its ravages have been so considerable as to *lessen* the population. On the contrary, we are inclined to think, notwithstanding the wide spreading desolation which has been produced by a struggle we have every reason to suppose will be brought to a speedy and fortunate conclusion, the inhabitants of South-America must have increased rather than di-

minished, and that the population of the new republics may at the present period be estimated at least one-fourth above the amount stated in the report we have alluded to.

We must now turn our attention to the volume which has afforded us occasion for the remarks we have ventured upon relative to the interesting country of whose persevering and noble contest with its former tyrants we are at length presented with a clear and continuous relation.

The authority of Spain over her colonies continued to be absolute and undisputed till about the middle of the last century, when the first example of resistance to the power of the mother-country was given, by a Canarian of the name of Leon, who having formed a considerable party, attempted the subversion of the company of Guibuscoa, to which the royal privilege had been granted of the exclusive trade with Venezuela. His enterprise, however, was discovered before it could be put into execution, and was of course crushed. Then followed the bold but unfortunate attempt of Tupac-Amaru. In 1781 some additional imposts on the kingdom of New-Grenada by the then governor, Pineros, created considerable agitation, and the province of Socoreo, erecting itself in open opposition to government, raised a force of nearly seventeen thousand men to enforce their repeal. The interference of the Archbishop of Santa Fè quieted the tumult, a capitulation was entered into, and the multitude separated to their houses, but every article of the treaty, according to the custom of the Spanish government and its officers, was subsequently violated.

The French Revolution seems to have acted with no inconsiderable energy on the minds of the South-Americans. A spirit hostile to the mother-country had long been growing up in the colonies, and this was further exasperated and encouraged by the increasing haughtiness of their governors, and the reduced and enfeebled state of Spain herself, who, at this time, had been compelled to sign a treaty of peace and alliance with the French Republic. The late William Pitt was then Premier of England, and to weaken the resources of Spain (now at the command of France) formed his well-known plan of liberating her transatlantic settlements. The knowledge of this exalted the hopes of the Creoles, and a conspiracy was formed, the object of which was a co-operation with a British force then in the neighbourhood of the

Main. On the point of bursting forth, it was discovered, and

"The ostensible leaders, Don M. Gual and Don J. M. Espana, made their escape to the neighbouring island. Don Espana returned two years after to La Guayra, but being discovered, he was hanged. The following is sir Thomas Picton's proclamation, which was circulated through the contiguous islands at that time:—'By virtue of an official paper, which I, the governor of this island of Trinidad, have received from the right honourable Henry Dundas, minister of his Britannic Majesty for foreign affairs, dated, 7th April, 1797, which I here publish in obedience to orders, and for the use which your excellencies may draw from its publication, in order that you may communicate its tenor, which is literally as follows:—'The object which at present I desire most particularly to recommend to your attention, is the means which might be best adapted to liberate the people of the continent near to the island of Trinidad, from the oppressive and tyrannic system which supports, with so much rigour, the monopoly of commerce, under the title of exclusive registers, which their government licenses demand; also to draw the greatest advantages possible, and which the local situation of the island presents, by opening a direct and free communication with the other parts of the world, without prejudice to the commerce of the British nation. In order to fulfil this intention with greater facility, it will be prudent for your excellency to animate the inhabitants of Trinidad in keeping up the communication which they had with those of Terra Firma, previous to the reduction of that island; under the assurance, that they will find there an *entrepot*, or general magazine of every sort of goods whatever. To this end, his Britannic Majesty has determined in council to grant freedom to the ports of Trinidad, with a direct trade to Great Britain.'

"With regard to the hopes you entertain of raising the spirits of those persons, with whom you are in correspondence, towards encouraging the inhabitants to resist the oppressive authority of their government, I have little more to say, than that they may be certain that, whenever they are in that disposition, they may receive at your hands all the succours to be expected from his Britannic Majesty, be it with forces, or with arms and ammunition to any extent; with the assurance, that the views of his Britannic Majesty go no further than to secure to them their independence, without pretending to any sovereignty over their country, nor even to interfere in the privileges of the people, nor in their political, civil, or religious rights.

"THOMAS PICTON, &c. &c.

"Puerto de Espana, 26th June, 1797."

In prosecution of Mr. Pitt's plan, the expedition of Miranda to Venezuela, and that of White Locke to Buenos Ayres, were

sent out under the auspices of the British government. The complete failure of both renders it unnecessary to dwell upon events that had so trivial an influence on the destinies of the countries to which they were sent.

The author's remarks upon the causes of the insurrection, and those which prevented it bursting forth sooner, appear to us so perfectly just, that we are induced to lay them before our readers.

"The different attacks made by the English and French on the coasts of Spanish America obliged the Spaniards to form a plan for raising an additional military force to assist the army already stationed in the ports, in case of any renewed attack. The civil commotions above alluded to gave rise likewise to a desirable military system, for placing the capitals in a situation which might enable the chiefs both to give and receive support in case of any insurrection. But although the troops were chiefly concentrated in the capitals, some were still kept in the provinces to enforce allegiance in case of necessity.

"When we observe the attachment of the Spaniards to their country, the respect the Creoles entertained for Spain, the feeble minds of the Indians, and the state of political insignificance in which the other races were kept, it is not wonderful that for three centuries they should have submitted to be governed by laws established in a country more than two thousand leagues distant, without making any effort for independence. And when some enterprising characters endeavoured to excite revolt, the difficulties which attended their undertaking, and the facility with which the Spanish government stifled their plans for independence, may easily be accounted for, by the vigilance of the chiefs, as well as of the inquisition, and the apathy of the Creoles, the natural consequence of their education.

"I do not pretend, however, to assert that the inhabitants of Spanish America were satisfied with the court of Madrid; on the contrary, I affirm that they were highly discontented. The following were grievances of which they complained; 1st. The arbitrary power exercised by the viceroys and captains-general, who very often eluded the laws, and even the orders they received from the king; see ley 173. tit. 15. lib. 2. de la Recopilacion, in which it complains that the officers sent by the king to Spanish America, were frequently impeached and deposed, which was never the case with those nominated by the viceroys. 2d. That the audiencias were composed of Europeans, who in trials were sole judges, and who had the power of interpreting the laws in their very application. 3d. That it was under the authority of the audiencias that clandestine decisions were often made, nocturnal arrests, banishment without previous trial, and numerous other hardships. 4th. That they were treat-

ed with distrust by the government, notwithstanding the loyalty which they manifested in the war for succession to the crown of Spain, in their resistance to the suggestions of the French and English to induce them to revolt, and, above all, in the loyal behaviour and uncommon courage which they displayed when Carthagena and Buenos Ayres were attacked by the English. 5th. That they were obliged to bear insults from the meanest of the Spaniards, who, merely because of their European birth, considered themselves superior, and, as it were, masters of the Spanish Americans. Among many other examples of this, the report may be quoted, which was made to the king by his fiscal, on the petition of the city of Merida de Maracaybo, in Venezuela, to found a university; the opinion of the fiscal was, that 'the petition was to be refused,' 'because it was unsuitable to promote learning in Spanish America, where the inhabitants appeared destined by nature to work in the mines.' After a pretended solemn deliberation of the consulado or board of trade in Mexico, the members informed the cortes, that 'the Indians were a race of monkeys, filled with vice and ignorance, automaton, unworthy of representing or being represented.' 6th. That, notwithstanding the original compact made between the king, and the first settlers in Spanish America, ley 13. titulo 2. libro 3. de la Recopilacion, which stipulated, 'that in all cases of government, justice, administration of finances, commissions, &c. the first discoverers, then the *pacificadors*, and lastly, the settlers, and those born in the said provinces, were to be preferred in all appointments and public employments;' the Creoles were gradually shut out from all participation in local commands and dignities: for, from the period of the first settlements, until the year 1810, out of one hundred and sixty-six viceroys, and five hundred and eighty-eight captains-general, governors, and presidents appointed in Spanish America, only eighteen have been Creoles, and these few only in consequence of their having been educated in Spain; when, at the same time, the Creoles were prohibited from visiting the mother-country, without an express permission from the king, which could only be obtained with much difficulty. 7th. That the prosperity of Spanish America was viewed with such a jealous eye by the Spanish government, that no manufactories were permitted, though Spain could not furnish merchandise sufficient for the consumption of her settlements; and that even the plantations of the colonial produce were restricted. As an example of such restriction, although Spain paid considerable sums annually to Portugal, for tobacco supplied from the Brazils, yet only a certain number of tobacco plants was allowed to be cultivated in South-America, and that number was fixed by the king's officers; and were a single plant found more than the number

allowed to each cultivator, the whole plantation was in danger of being rooted up. Another example of this kind was, the prohibition of extracting oils, or of making wine or brandy, or of planting vines or almond trees in any province of Spanish America, excepting Peru or Chili; and that exception was in consequence of the length of the voyage from Spain for articles of so heavy a nature; and even the wine, almonds, &c. produced in Chili and Peru, were not permitted to be sent to Mexico, New-Grenada, or Terra Firma: titulo 18. libro 14. de la Recopilacion: and to counterbalance these privileges enjoyed in Chili and Peru, to cultivate tobacco or the sugarcane was forbidden in Chili. 8th. And in order to check the progress of population, and to keep distinct the different classes, there were many laws tending to put obstacles to marriage. *Vide cedulas sobre el dissenso, y varias leyes del Recopilacion sobre los matrimonios.*

"Notwithstanding these complaints, Spanish America might have existed in its dependent state many generations, I might say centuries. The court of Madrid knew perfectly well how to answer the petitions of its American subjects without redressing their grievances; how to keep them distant from public affairs; how to grant or to refuse their demands, without impairing the general system of exclusion with regard to them adopted by Spain. But Napoleon Bonaparte, who was, in fact, already master of the peninsula, and possessor of the wealth of America, by the influence he had in the court of Madrid, having invaded the kingdom, and seized the royal family of Spain, loosened those bonds which united the new to the old world, and gave rise to a revolution which, from the wide extent of the country in which it is seated, its character, and consequences, is unparalleled in the annals of history."

Such was the state of things when the news of the abdication of Ferdinand, and the ascension to the Spanish throne of Joseph-Napoleon reached the colonies, and so strong appears to have been their attachment to the mother-country, notwithstanding the injurious and insolent system always acted upon by old Spain towards her settlements in the new world, that it required only measures of the most ordinary prudence to preserve these valuable dominions, and secure their assistance in every way that the peculiar situation of Spain herself demanded. An amelioration in the government—the admission of the distinguished native families into its administration—the grant of a free trade between the colonies and Spain—the abolition of monopolies—the opening of the quicksilver mines to the enterprise of all possessing the means to

work them, the administration of the produce still remaining with the "officers of the minery department, independent of the viceroys, captains-general, and officers of the *real hacienda*"—the permission to plant, sow, and rear any article of produce to which the soil and climate is adapted;—these would have been changes not only productive of benefits the most important to both countries, but whose frank and unhesitating accordances would have linked the hearts and souls of the colonists with their European brethren, and have doubled the resources of Spain in her fierce and fearful struggle with the overwhelming power of Napoleon. But the feeble and arrogant bodies that assumed to themselves the task of presiding over her fortunes, seem to have conducted themselves in the spirit most favourable to the wishes of France, and most hostile to the interests of Spain and the colonies. Her various and discordant juntas, while they exhausted their resources by ill-concerted and worse executed measures, comported themselves towards the people of South-America with a duplicity worthy only of contempt, and an insolence exceeding that of the royal government. The remonstrances, the petitions of the provinces were either wholly disregarded, and their envoys insulted, or if the objects of their wishes were granted, such concessions were only made after repeated representations, and with the intention of being revoked whenever it should be deemed expedient. The consequences of this weak and treacherous conduct on the part of the juntas were not long in developing themselves. The South-Americans, though still unwilling to separate from the mother-country, determined to release themselves from the unworthy yoke under which they had so long existed, and to effect, for and by themselves, those changes and ameliorations which they but too plainly perceived the hopelessness of obtaining from Spain. Juntas, acting in the name of Ferdinand, were established in the different provinces, composed of the most distinguished native talents, to whom were intrusted the entire administration of government, and though still ready to extend to Spain those aids of which she stood in need, they resolved that every supply should flow from their own free and uninfluenced generosity, and that the best interests of a mighty continent should no longer be confided to persons utterly incompetent to superintend them, as well from their entire devotion to the mandates of a profligate and rapacious

court, as from their ignorance of the countries over which they were deputed to rule.

The same feeling which, during the alliance of Spain with France, induced the British government to hold out encouragement to the revolutionary spirit in South-America, now operated with the emperor Napoleon in inciting the people of that highly-favoured quarter of the globe to assert their independence. Instructions were dispatched to the emissaries and agents of France in the colonies and the United States, to forward, by assurances of the imperial favour and protection, those views towards the complete emancipation of South-America, which at that period only a few of the more ardent and daring spirits regarded either as attainable or desirable. Those sent to M. Desmolard are remarkable for the clear view which they present of the true objects of South-American policy, and perhaps no less so for that spirit of refined sagacity which has always distinguished French politicians.

"Instructions given by Joseph Napoleon, to the commissary or principal agent appointed by him at *Baltimore*, M. Desmolard, and to the others who, furnished with his orders, have gone to Spanish America for the purpose of exciting a revolution there :

"The object which these agents are to aim at for the present, is only to declare to the Creoles of Spanish America, and to persuade them, that his imperial and royal majesty has solely in view to give liberty to Spanish America, whose inhabitants have been enslaved for so many years; and the only return expected for so great a boon, is the friendship of the natives, and commerce with the harbours of both Americas; That, to render Spanish America free and independent of Europe, his said majesty offers all the necessary assistance of troops and warlike stores, he having agreed with the United States of North-America to accommodate him therewith. Every commissary or agent in chief, being acquainted with the district to which he is deputed, and also with the character of its inhabitants, will have no difficulty in selecting proper persons to give them the needful instructions for persuading the people, and pointing out to them the advantage they will derive from throwing off the European yoke. He will make them observe that large sums will remain and circulate in the American provinces, by suspending the profuse remittances which are continually making to Spain; and that their commerce will be increased, and their ports be open to all foreign nations. He will dwell on the advantage to be derived from the freedom of agriculture, and the cultivation of all those articles at present prohibited by the Spanish go-

vernment; for instance, that of saffron, hemp, flax, olives, vines, &c.; the benefit that will accrue to them from the establishment of manufactures of every sort; the great satisfaction and advantage of abolishing the monopolies of tobacco, gunpowder, stamps, &c. To obtain these points with some ease, in consequence of the greater part of the people being uncivilized, the agents ought to be solicitous to render themselves acceptable to the governors, intendants, curates, and prelates. They will spare no expense, nor any other means of gaining their good will, especially that of the ecclesiastics, on whom they are to prevail, that they should urge and persuade penitents, when they come to confess, that they stand in need of an independent government, that they must not lose so favourable an opportunity as that which now presents itself, and which the emperor Napoleon affords them, who, they are to make the people believe, is sent by God to chastise the pride and tyranny of monarchs; and that it is a mortal sin, admitting of no pardon, to resist God's will. They will, on every occasion, call to their minds the opposition they experience from the Europeans, the vile manner in which they are treated by them, and the contempt to which they are exposed. They will also remind the Indians, circumstantially, of the cruelties of the Spaniards in conquest, and of their infamous treatment of their legitimate sovereigns, in dethroning them, in taking away their lives, or enslaving them. They will describe the acts of injustice which they daily experience when applying for places, which are bestowed by the viceroys and governors on worthless persons, to the exclusion of the meritorious. They will direct the people's attention to the superior talents of the many neglected Creoles, and people of merit, contrasted with the European public officers and ecclesiastics, which will make apparent the hardships they suffer, and will enable them to draw a parallel between the talents and merits of the Creoles and those of the European officers. They will represent to them the difference between the United States and Spanish America, the comforts which those Americans enjoy, and their advancement in commerce, agriculture, and navigation; and the pleasure of living free from the European yoke, and being left solely to their own patriotic and elective government. They will assure them, that America, once disengaged from Spain, will become the legislatrix of Europe. All agents, both principal and subordinate, are to specify the names of those who declare themselves friends and votaries of liberty; and the subaltern agents are to transmit the lists to the principals, who will make their reports to my envoy in the United States, for my information, and that I may duly reward every individual. My agents will refrain from declaiming against the inquisition or the church, and, in their conversations, rather

insist upon the necessity of that holy tribunal, and on the usefulness of the clergy. Upon the insurrectional standards or banners is to be inscribed, the motto, 'Long live the catholic, apostolic, and Roman religion, and perish the bad government!' They will, besides, make the Indians observe how happy they will be when they become once more masters of their country, and free from the tyrannical tribute which they pay to a foreign monarch; and, lastly, they will tell the people that their said monarch does not so much as exist in his own government, but is in the power of the restorer of liberty, and the universal legislator, Napoleon. In short, these agents must, by all possible means, endeavour to show the people the utility which will arise to them from the government in question. The revolution having been thus prepared, and all the principal members who are to take a share in it, in every city and province, having been gained over, it will be for the chief, as well as the subordinate agents, to accelerate the insurrection, in order that the revolt may take place at the different points agreed upon, on the same day and at the same hour; this being a very material point, which will greatly facilitate the enterprise. The principal agents in every province of their department, and the subalterns in the posts assigned them, will win over the domestics of governors, intendants, and other persons in power, and by means of them they will poison those of this class whom they consider as hostile to the undertaking; an operation which is to precede the revolution, in order to remove all obstacles. The first thing to be considered will be, how to stop the remittances of treasure to the peninsula, which may easily be effected by having good agents at Vera Cruz, where all the vessels arriving from Europe will be received, and their officers and crews immediately confined in the fortresses, until every thing shall have succeeded, and the revolution be in forwardness. The agents are further directed to instruct their sub-agents to transmit to them frequent accounts of the progress of the revolution; and the chief agents will communicate with my envoy in the United States by the channels which shall be pointed out to them. For this purpose it will be proper to keep prepared land conveyances to those points of the coast which may be deemed suitable, and where there are always to be ready vessels for any emergency.

“JOSEPH NAPOLEON.

“To my envoy Desmoulard.”

Previous to the adoption by the colonies of a native government, they had transmitted to the cortes a formal representation of the grievances under which they laboured, and the redress of which would have left Spain in possession of some of the finest regions of the earth.

We extract from the work before us the propositions alluded to.

“1st. In conformity to the decree of the central junta, dated the 15th of October, 1809, which declared the inhabitants of Spanish America equal in rights to those of the peninsula, the national representation of every part of Spanish America, the Spanish West-Indies, and the Philippine Islands, including every class of their inhabitants, shall be the same in form, manner, and without distinction, as in the kingdom and islands of European Spain.

“2dly. The free natives and inhabitants of Spanish America shall be allowed to plant and to cultivate whatever their climate will produce; with license to encourage industry, and to promote manufactures and arts in their fullest extent.

“3dly. Spanish America shall enjoy the liberty of exporting her own natural and manufactured productions to the peninsula, as well as to the allies, and to neutral nations; and of importing whatever she may want. All her ports are consequently to be opened. This and the preceding demand were agreed to, but the order to carry them into execution was never published.

“4thly. There shall be a free trade between Spanish America and the Spanish settlements in Asia. Every thing militating against this freedom to be abolished.

“5thly. Freedom of trade to be granted from all the ports in Spanish America and the Philippine Islands to other parts of Asia. Any law existing contrary to such freedom to be annulled.

“6thly. All estancos, or monopolies in favour of the public treasury, or of the king, shall be suppressed; but the public treasury shall be indemnified for the loss of profit arising from such monopoly, by new duties on the same articles.

“7thly. The working the quicksilver mines shall be free in Spanish America, but the administration of the produce shall remain in charge of the officers of the minery department, independent of the viceroys and captains-general, and officers of the *real hacienda*. This was granted, and orders were published for carrying it into execution in the provinces under the Spaniards.

“8thly. All Spanish Americans shall be eligible equally with Spaniards to all appointments of rank or emolument, whether at court or in any part of the monarchy, either in political, military, or ecclesiastical departments.

“9thly. Consulting the natural protection of each kingdom in Spanish America, half of the public appointments shall be filled by Spanish subjects born in America.

“10thly. That the above stipulations may be punctually adhered to, a consultive junta shall be formed in each capital, to the intent that it may propose persons suited to fill each vacancy.

“11thly. Considering the great advan-

tages resulting from the cultivation of science, and the benefits that may be derived from instructing the Indians, the order of the Jesuits to be re-established by the cortes.”

These conditions, for even the seventh article was never put into efficient operation, were rejected, and the establishment of the native governments was immediately resolved. This measure only served still farther to exasperate the haughty and self-sufficient men constituting the cortes, and they determined to quell by arms what they called an open and audacious rebellion against the mother-country. They had, however, to deal with a people at least as determined to resist as were they to subdue. There was now an open war between the two parties, which, on the part of the Spaniards, was begun and pursued in a manner paralleled only by that adopted by the first conquerors. Hear what the author of the present volume says.

“The Spanish chiefs and rulers gave the first example of violating capitulations, of shooting prisoners, and of refusing all means for accommodation, in that cruel war carried on in the new continent by the authority of the cortes of Spain, and by Ferdinand the Seventh. I may, indeed, defy the old Spaniards of either world to find an excuse, or even a palliation, for their want of humanity, and breaches of faith, since the beginning of the revolution. The following are instances:

“When Hidalgo approached the Mexican capital at the head of 80,000 men, he sent his envoys to Venegas, with proposals of peace, which the viceroy refused to answer. The junta of Sultepec made similar proposals, in 1812, and the result was the same. General Miranda delivered up the fort of La Guayra, the town of Caracas, and the provinces of Cumana and Barcelona, to the Spanish General Monteverde, by capitulation, who promised to bury in oblivion every thing militating against the Spanish government, and granting the liberty of emigration from Venezuela. Notwithstanding this treaty and solemn engagement, general Miranda was shortly after made a prisoner, thrown into a dungeon at Puerto Cabello, afterwards sent to Puerto Rico, and from thence to the prison of La Cartaca, in Cadiz, where he lately died. During a truce between the armies of Peru, commanded by general Goyeneche, and that of Buenos Ayres, under the command of general Valcarlos, an attack was made while the army of Buenos Ayres considered itself secure, confiding in the existing treaty. Belgrano, general of the patriots, who, in 1812, had taken general Tristan prisoner, and the division he commanded of the army of Peru, generously gave them liberty to return home, having re-

ceived their pledged honour that they would not fight against Buenos Ayres. They however, violated this sacred engagement a few days after. General Bolivar, having repeatedly defeated the royalists, commanded by Monteverde in Venezuela, accepted terms of capitulation, which were never ratified. General Truxillo, in a despatch to Venegas, boasts of his having admitted a flag of truce, he being himself at the head of his troops, drawn up in battle array. The bearers of the flag of truce wore a banner of the Virgin Mary; this Truxillo asked for, and having obtained it, he gave orders for firing on these envoys. 'By this means,' he said, 'I free myself of them and their proposals.' General Calleja, informing the viceroy of Mexico, that in the battle of Aculeo he had only one man killed and two wounded, adds, that he put to the sword five thousand Indians, and that the loss of the insurgents amounted to ten thousand. General Calleja likewise entered Gaunaxuato with fire and sword, where he sacrificed 14,000 old men, women, and children. These, and many more of general Calleja's achievements were well known in Spain, when the regency appointed him successor to the viceroy Venegas. The conduct of Monteverde was likewise approved when he was appointed captain-general of Venezuela, after breaking the terms of capitulation with Miranda; and, what formed his excuse for this breach of faith was, that he was not empowered to capitulate with the insurgents."

These and similar atrocities at length exasperated the minds of the people to so high a degree, and so completely alienated them from the mother-country, that they resolved to separate from her entirely, and declare themselves free, independent, and sovereign states. Venezuela was the first to adopt this bold and decisive, but prudent step. Our readers will peruse with the liveliest feelings of pleasure the declaration of independence published by her congress in the year 1811.

"In the name of the all powerful God :

"We, the representatives of the united provinces of Caraccas, Cumana, Barinas, Margaritta, Barcelona, Merida, and Truxillo, forming the united confederation of Venezuela in the southern continent, in congress assembled, considering the full and absolute possession of our rights, which we received justly and legally the 19th of April, 1810, in consequence of the occurrences at Bayonne, of the Spanish throne being possessed by a conqueror, and of a new government having succeeded, constituted without our consent : We are desirous, before we make use of those rights, of which we have been deprived for more than three ages, but are now restored to us by the political order of human events, to make known to the world those reasons which have

emanated from these occurrences, and which authorize us in the free use we are going to make of our own sovereignty.

"Nevertheless, we do not wish to begin by alleging the rights inherent in every conquered country to recover its state of property and independence. We generously forget the long series of ills, injuries, and privations which the sole right of conquest has indistinctly caused to all the descendants of the discoverers, conquerors, and settlers of these countries. Plunged into a worse state by the very same cause that ought to have favoured them, and drawing a veil over the three hundred years of Spanish dominion in America, we will now only present to view those authenticated facts which ought to have wrested from one world the right over the other, by the inversion, disorder, and conquest which have already dissolved the Spanish nation.

"This disorder has increased the evils in America, by rendering void its claims and remonstrances; enabling the governors of Spain to insult and oppress this part of the nation, by leaving it without the succour and guarantee of the laws.

"It is contrary to order, impossible to the government of Spain, and fatal to the welfare of America, that the latter, possessed of a range of country infinitely more extensive, and a population more numerous than that of Spain, should be dependent on, and subject to a small peninsula in the European continent.

"The cessions and abdication at Bayonne, the revolutions of the Escorial and Aranjuez, and the orders of the royal substitute, the duke of Berg being sent to America, suffice to give virtue to the rights which until then the Americans had sacrificed to the unity and integrity of the Spanish nation.

"Venezuela was the first to acknowledge and generously to preserve this integrity; nor did she abandon the cause of her fellow countrymen while they retained the least hope of salvation.

"America was called into a new state of existence, since the period when she felt that she could and ought to take upon herself the charge of her own fate and preservation, &c.

"The governments that arrogated to themselves the national representation took advantage of those dispositions which confidence, distance, oppression, and ignorance created in the Americans against the new government which had entered Spain by means of force; and, contrary to their own principles, they maintained among us the illusion in favour of Ferdinand, in order to devour and harass us with impunity; they promised us liberty, equality, and fraternity conveyed in pompous discourses and studied phrases, for the purpose of covering the snare laid by a cunning, useless, and degrading representation.

"As soon as they were dissolved, and

had substituted and destroyed among themselves the various forms of the government of Spain,—and as soon as the imperious law of necessity had dictated to Venezuela the urgency of preserving herself, in order to guard and maintain the rights of her king, and to offer an asylum to her European brethren against the evils that threatened them,—their former conduct was disowned, they varied their principles, and gave the appellations of insurrection, perfidy, and ingratitude to the same acts that had served as models for the governments of Spain, because for them the gate was then closed to the advantageous administration of public affairs, which they intended to perpetuate among themselves under the name of an imaginary king.

“Notwithstanding our remonstrances, our moderation, generosity, and the inviolability of our principles, contrary to the wishes of the majority of our brethren in Europe, we were declared in a state of rebellion; we were blockaded; war was declared against us; agents were sent among us to excite us one against the other, endeavouring to destroy our credit among the nations in Europe, and imploring their assistance to oppress us.

“Without taking the least notice of our reasons, without offering them to the impartial judgment of the world, and without any other judges than our enemies, we are condemned to be debarred from all intercourse with our mother-country: and, to add contempt to calumny, empowered agents are named for us against our own express will, that in their cortes they may arbitrarily dispose of our interests under the influence and power of our enemies.

“In order to crush and suppress the effects of our representation when they were obliged to grant it to us, we were degraded to a paltry and diminutive scale, and the form of election depended on the passive voice of the municipal bodies, whose importance was lessened by the despotism of the governors. This was an insult to our confidence and frank mode of acting, rather than an acknowledgment of our incontestable political consequence.

“Always deaf to the cries of justice on our part, the governments of Spain have endeavoured to discredit all our efforts, by declaring as criminal, and stamping with infamy, and rewarding with the scaffold and confiscation, every attempt which the Americans, at different periods, have made for the welfare of their country; such was that which our own security lately dictated to us, that we might not be driven into that state of confusion which we fore-saw, and hurried to that horrid fate which we hope soon to avert for ever. By means of such atrocious policy, they have succeeded in making our Spanish countrymen insensible to our misfortunes; in arming them against us; in erasing from their bosoms the sweet impressions of friendship, of consanguinity;

and converting into enemies members even of our own great family.

“When we, faithful to our promises, were sacrificing our security and civil dignity, not to abandon the rights which we generously preserved to Ferdinand of Bourbon, we have heard that, to the bonds of power which bound him to the emperor of the French, he has added the ties of blood and friendship; in consequence of which, even the governments of Spain have already declared their resolution only to acknowledge him conditionally.*

“In this sad alternative, we have remained three years in a state of political indecision and ambiguity so fatal and dangerous, that this alone would authorize the resolution, which the faith of our promises and the bonds of fraternity had caused us to defer, till necessity obliged us to go beyond what we at first proposed, impelled by the hostile and unnatural conduct of the government of Spain, which has freed us of our conditional oath; by which circumstance we are called to the august representation we now exercise.

“But we, who glory in founding our proceedings on better principles, and not wishing to establish our felicity on the misfortunes of our fellow beings, consider and declare as friends, as companions of our fate, and participators of our happiness, those who, united to us by the ties of blood, language, and religion, have suffered the same evils under the old order of things; provided they acknowledge our absolute independence of them, and of any foreign power whatever; that they assist us to maintain this independence with their lives, fortunes, and sentiments; declaring and acknowledging to us, as well as to every other nation, that we are in war enemies, in peace friends, brothers, and compatriots.

“In consequence of all these solid, public, and incontestable reasons of policy, which so powerfully urge the necessity of recovering our natural dignity, restored to us by the order of events, and in compliance with those unprescribed rights enjoyed by nations to destroy every compact, agreement, or association which does not answer the purposes for which governments were established, we believe that we cannot nor ought not to preserve the bonds which hitherto kept us united to the government of Spain; and that, like all the other nations of the world, we are free, and authorized not to depend on any other authority than our own; and to take among the powers of the earth that place of equality which nature and the Supreme Being assign to us, and to which we are called by the succession of human events, urged on to our own good and utility.

“We are aware of the difficulties that attend, and the obligations imposed upon us

* Ferdinand was at one time supposed to be married to a relation of Bonaparte.

by the rank we are going to take in the political order of the world, as well as of the powerful influence of forms and customs to which, unfortunately, we have been long used; we at the same time know that the shameful submission to them, when we can throw them off, would be still more ignominious for us, and fatal to our posterity, than our long and painful slavery; and, that it now becomes an indispensable duty to provide for our own preservation, security, and happiness, by essentially varying all the forms of our former constitution.

“Considering, therefore, that by the reasons thus alleged, we have satisfied the respect which we owe to the opinions of the human race, and the dignity of other nations, into the number of which we now enter, and on whose communication and friendship we rely; we, the representatives of the united provinces of Venezuela, calling on the Supreme Being to witness the justice of our proceedings, and the rectitude of our intentions, do implore his divine and celestial help; and ratifying, at the moment in which we are raised to the dignity which he restores to us, the desire we have of living and dying free, and of believing and defending the holy catholic and apostolic religion of Jesus Christ. We, therefore, in the name and authority which we hold from the virtuous people of Venezuela, declare solemnly to the world, that its united provinces are, and ought to be, from this day, by act and right, free, sovereign, and independent states; and that they are absolved from every submission and dependence on the throne of Spain, or on those who do, or may call themselves its agents or representatives; and, that a free and independent state, thus constituted, has full power to take that form of government which may be conformable to the general will of the people; to declare war, make peace, form alliances, regulate treaties of commerce, limits, and navigation, and to do and transact every act in like manner as other free and independent states. And that this our solemn declaration may be held valid, firm, and durable, we hereby mutually bind each province to the other, and pledge our lives, fortunes, and the sacred tie of our national honour. Done in the federal palace of Caraccas. Signed by our own hands, sealed with the great provisional seal of the confederation, and countersigned by the secretary of congress, this 5th day of July, 1811, the first of our independence.

“JUAN ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ DOMINGUEZ,
President.

“LUIS IGNACIO MENDOZA,
Vice-President.

“FRANCISCO ISNARDY, Secretary.”

“Similar declarations were made in Mexico, and in Carthagená, Socorro, Tunja, Pamplona, Antioquia, and the other provinces, which composed the confederation of New-Grenada, and, latterly, by the congress of Buenos Ayres.”

In 1811 the British government offered its mediation between the contending parties; but its endeavours proved unsuccessful. The following were the conditions first proposed by its commissioners as the basis of reconciliation:

“1st. The revolting provinces, *las provincias disidentes*, shall swear allegiance to the cortes and regency, and nominate their deputies to the cortes.

“2dly. Hostilities between the armies shall be suspended, and all prisoners released.

“3dly. That the cortes shall duly attend to the complaints of the Spanish Americans.

“4thly. That the commissioners shall render an account of the progress and effect of the mediation eight months from its commencement.

“5thly. While the mediation continues, the cortes are to allow a free trade between England and the rebelling provinces.

“6thly. The mediation must be concluded in fifteen months.

“7thly. If the commissioners are not successful in prevailing with the Spanish Americans to accede to the terms proposed, *the English government engages to assist Spain to subdue them by force.*

“8thly. The Spanish government, for the support of its own honour, is openly to declare to the English minister, those reasons which have induced the cortes to accept of their mediation.”

These conditions were subsequently amended and enlarged in the following manner:

“1st. That there should be a cessation of hostilities between Spain and Spanish America.

“2dly. An amnesty shall be granted, and perfect oblivion of all acts, or even opinions that may have been expressed, by the Spanish Americans against the Spaniards or their government.

“3dly. That the cortes shall confirm and enforce all the rights of the Spanish Americans, and that they shall be allowed justly and liberally their representatives in the cortes.

“4thly. That Spanish America should be permitted perfect freedom for commerce, though some degree of preference may be allowed to Spain.

“5thly. That the appointments of viceroys, governors, &c. shall be given indiscriminately to South Americans and Spaniards.

“6thly. That the interior government, and every branch of public administration, shall be intrusted to the *cabildo*, or municipalities, who shall act in conjunction with the chief of the provinces; and that the members of the *cabildo* shall be either South-Americans or Spaniards, possessing property in the respective provinces.

“7thly. That Spanish America shall

swear allegiance to Ferdinand the Seventh, as soon as she is put in possession of her rights, and has sent deputies to the cortes.

"8thly. That Spanish America shall acknowledge the sovereignty possessed by the cortes, as representing Ferdinand the Seventh.

"9thly. That Spanish America shall pledge herself to maintain a mutual and friendly intercourse with the peninsula.

"10thly. That Spanish America shall oblige herself to co-operate with the cortes and the allies of Spain to preserve the peninsula from the power of France.

"11thly. That Spanish America shall pledge herself to send liberal succour to the peninsula for the continuance of the war."

In this form the conditions were taken into consideration by the cortes, and debated upon with closed doors. Several days were consumed in the discussion, on the termination of which, the proposed mediation was rejected, principally, it was averred, because the interference of Britain had not been *solicited* by the provinces, and that her views in tendering it were selfish and sinister.

And, in truth, we do not think that the cortes, in this instance, were much in the wrong. The conduct of the British ministry with respect to the great and interesting question of South-American independence, must, we think, be allowed on all hands to be sufficiently equivocal. That it was ever animated by a higher impulse than mere expediency suggested, we can scarcely bring ourselves to credit. That it ever nourished within its bosom the noble and generous wish to foster the budding liberties of the colonies, and to stand forth as their protector in the fierce and magnanimous strife which has ensued;—that it was sincerely and anxiously desirous to stretch forth a hand in their cause, or to employ the slightest portion of the immense resources of Britain in strengthening the arm of transatlantic freedom, would, we fear, be a delusion—a pleasing one, we grant, but still a delusion. It is not fitting the dignity of rational beings to be imposed upon by high-sounding names and unrealized professions. Truth and candour are the first qualifications of a public writer, and in that capacity we conceive it our duty to declare that we do not discern in the negotiations of the British government, either with the provinces, or old Spain, any traces of a liberal and beneficent policy. When, indeed, the mother-country seemed to be the firm and fast ally of France, it suited the views of the British cabinet to hold out to the colonists prospects of the most flattering nature; and incitements to insurrection, and assur-

ances of the most active support in any measures they might adopt for the assertion of their rights, were daily flowing from the lips of its agents. But for all this apparent magnanimity, the cause is really too clear and positive to allow even the most charitably disposed to doubt for a moment. To annoy France, and deprive her of part of the benefits she derived from her connexion with Spain, was unquestionably the principal stimulus with the cabinet of St. James. But as soon as the alliance between the two countries is broken up, and Ferdinand, through the regency established during his absence, becomes the friend of England, all this enthusiasm vanishes, and "*His Britannic Majesty has strong reasons for hoping that the*" South-Americans "*will acknowledge the authority of the regency of Spain.*"* Nay, so warm does the friendship between the two kings become in a short time, that in case the colonies reject the terms proposed by the English commissioners, his said majesty is perfectly willing to employ those very arms which were formerly engaged to support the independence of the provinces, in assisting "*Spain to subdue them by force.*" Now this, we think, is very amusing, and affords an interesting and, indeed, beautiful specimen of that happy flexibility in politics and principle which is the high and precious endowment of *Legitimacy*—a neat, pretty little word, by the way, and elegantly expressive of the host of blessings which the genius of its inventors has brought upon the old world, and which their benevolence would fain introduce into the new.

The declaration of the Venezuelan congress was soon followed by more active proceedings. While the mediation of Britain was in a course of discussion,

"The arms of the revolutionary government had obtained important advantages in the new continent. They possessed that whole territory which comprised Buenos Ayres, Venezuela, and New-Grenada, with the exception of a few fortified places and some provinces; and the Mexican patriots obtained possession of many places in the interior of Mexico, under Morelos, Rayon, Victoria, and others. Some plan for revolt had been discovered in the capital of Mexico, and even Lima had been threatened with insurrection."

The war proceeded with alternate success till the return of Ferdinand to Spain, who,

"In his decree of the 4th of June, 1814, announced to the South-Americans his re-

* See lord Liverpool's Letter to general Layard, governor of Caracas (June 29, 1810).

turn to his country, and ordered that they should lay down their arms. Soon after an army was equipped in Cadiz, and Morillo appointed its commander. Ten thousand men chosen from the best troops in Spain—an armament such as had never before been seen on the coast of Venezuela—appeared before Carupano in the middle of April, 1815. Alarm was now spread among those who had been fighting for the cause of independence. All hopes of reconciliation were abandoned, and the revolt in Spanish America, against the authority of Ferdinand the Seventh, dates from this period.

“From Carupano, general Morillo proceeded to Margarita, from thence to Caracas, and in the following August he besieged Carthagena. The dissensions between Bolivar and Castillo, both commanders of the South-American forces, had lessened the means of defence which Carthagena possessed, and even deprived it of supplies of provisions. The inhabitants, nevertheless, supported by near two thousand regular troops, prepared themselves for a vigorous resistance. The only attack upon the town, or rather upon Lapopa, which commands the town, was made the 11th of November, when the assailants were repulsed. Provisions, however, began to fail, and the vessels which approached the harbour were taken by the Spanish ships of war which blockaded the port. More than three thousand persons died actually of famine. To attempt a longer resistance was vain. The 5th of December, 1815, the governor and garrison of Carthagena evacuated the place, and the following morning the king's troops entered.

“In possession of Carthagena, general Morillo was enabled to conquer New-Grenada, which his army did in the following manner:—Calzada, with part of Morillo's forces left at Caracas, invaded the provinces of Pamplona and Tunja; another division penetrated through the provinces of Antioquia and Popayan; and the commander in chief went up the river Magdalena, nearly as far as Sanbartolomé. Part of his troops proceeded up the river as far as the town of Honda; but Morillo took the road towards Ocana and Sangil, in the province of Socorro. The royal troops had many skirmishes with the independents, in which the advantage was always on the side of the king's forces. At last, the battle of Cachiri was fought; and in it fell the best of the troops and officers who had supported the congress of New-Grenada. In consequence of this defeat the congress separated, and the few remaining troops, having abandoned the scene of action, took the road of Los Llanos, commanded by the generals Cerviez and Ricaute.

“General Morillo entered Santa Fè de Bogota in the month of June, 1816, and remained there till November. *More than six hundred persons, of those who had composed the congress and the provincial governments, as well as the chiefs of the independent army,*

were shot, hanged, or exiled; and the prisons remained full of others who were yet waiting their fate. Among those executed were the botanists Don J. Caldas and Don J. Lozano, who had been ordered by the congress of New-Grenada to publish the works of Dr. Mutis; Don J. M. Cabal, a distinguished chymist; Don C. Torres, a man distinguished for his learning; Don J. G. Gutierrez Moreno, and Don M. R. Torices, both well known for having been entirely devoted to the cause of their country; Don Antonio Maria Palacio-faxar, Don J. M. Gutierrez, Don Miguel Pombo, D. F. A. Ulloa, and many other learned and valuable characters. The wives of persons executed or exiled by Morillo were themselves exiled too.”

It would be of little interest to our readers to wade through the sanguinary details of this dreadful and murderous struggle. With the atrocities committed by the officers acting in the name of Ferdinand, we are all, unfortunately, but too familiar. In the commencement of the war, the patriots, as was to be expected, were frequently defeated, but the very length of the contest has, in all probability, been productive of the greatest advantage to them, and by inuring them to martial discipline, and the fatigues and hardships of war, ensured the ultimate and speedy triumph of as noble and animating a cause as can possibly fire the heart of man. Defeat, sickness, famine, and desertion seem to have thinned the Spanish ranks to a degree that authorizes the supposition of the futility of any effectual hostility on the part of the royalists. We look forward to the establishment and consolidation in South-America of a system of republics, that with such an example before them as is presented by these states, bids fair to secure to their citizens all the rights, privileges, and advantages which *ought* to be the portion of all civilized societies. In some of their communities a regular form of government appears to be already established, and though we shall not enter into the discussion of the policy to be pursued by the United States with regard to the new republics, we cannot refrain from expressing our hope that the northern and southern divisions of the new world will be knit together in the closest bonds of a strict and high-principled friendship; and that as in Europe, her rulers have entered into a *League* for the oppression of their subjects, the free communities of America may unite in a SACRED ALLIANCE for the protection of those pure and holy principles, the assertion of which has rescued so large and fair a portion of the globe from the fangs of a base and foreign tyranny. G.

ART. 4. *Journal of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.* Vol i. Part I. Philadelphia. 8vo. pp. 220, and 9 plates. May to December, 1817.

AMONG the several learned societies, which have lately been established in the United States, the Academy of Philadelphia, appears to have been one of the most industrious, having within a few years collected a valuable Museum of natural productions, a handsome library, a philosophical apparatus, and many important papers. Some of these last communications are now published in this volume, which may be considered as the first part of the transactions of that society. Following the example of the Philomatic Society of Paris, it has begun for the first time in our country to publish periodically such transactions in the shape of a monthly journal. This mode is peculiarly suitable to the purpose of spreading with rapidity new discoveries, and retains, at the same time, all the advantages of casual or regular volumes, into which they may be divided after a competent series is issued.

In the introduction, it is stated, that the society meant to publish a few pages whenever it appeared that materials worthy of publication should be put into its possession, without professing to make any formal periodical communications; yet, having begun in May, 1817, the journal has been continued monthly until December, when it has been interrupted after completing a volume; but with the intention of being renewed pretty soon to begin a second part.

Many of the papers introduced into this volume, are highly interesting, and contain much valuable and new matter, which we mean to take up in successive order; but before we undertake this, we shall venture some general remarks upon the whole tenor of these collective labours. The first peculiarity that surprised us on perusal, was the small number of contributors to this journal, only five names are affixed to the twenty tracts and papers included in this volume; whether no more than five members of the Academy, were able to afford materials worthy of the public eye, or whether that institution was unable or unwilling to select the papers of any other author, is immaterial in itself to the present purpose, since both circumstances, would militate severely against the capability of that society, and might invalidate more or less the respectable opinion we should have conceived of it. It had invited, in the first number of the journal, contributions from all the

lovers of science generally; yet, if we are correctly informed, several valuable papers, containing new discoveries, which were forwarded in compliance with that request and in conformity to the directions given, were refused admittance in that publication. In that case an evident partiality for a few members of the society, would be thoroughly discernible: such a partiality accounts for the singularity now under notice, but ought not by any means to prevail in any periodical publication, and much less in one of the present nature. If the society could not pass a correct judgment upon the papers presented for publication, it would of course prove itself unable to conduct the task which it has assumed; but whereas it appears that it considers itself responsible for the doctrines and facts of every tract introduced and published, a very unusual responsibility indeed, it certainly follows that it ought to scrutinize, very minutely, every paper meant for publication. That it has not always complied with this necessary scrutiny, we shall have abundant proofs when we proceed to the successive investigation of the tracts already published: wherefore we cannot do less than express our astonishment at the assumption of such a responsibility. It is a general custom with nearly all the learned societies of Europe and America, to disclaim any collective responsibility for the tracts which they insert in their Transactions; but they leave it altogether upon the authors of each respective memoir. It would have been advisable for the members of the Academy of Philadelphia, to have imitated that custom; but since they have thought otherwise, we shall take them upon their own ground, and consider the labours now published, as belonging to their collective capacity, and having passed the test of an accurate scrutiny.

We are exceedingly sorry that, in so doing, we shall often feel the necessity of censuring some parts of their labours, and that the inaccuracies and errors which we may notice, will reflect upon the whole Academy, many of the members of which, we are well aware, will concur with us in our remarks, and ought not to be considered as guilty of the whole, since they have probably never been consulted. Any author, even of the most consummate experience and efficient ability, is occasionally liable to commit some mistakes,

he may be deceived as to facts or misled in his conclusions; such unfortunate occurrences may be easily pardoned to an individual whose solitary studies do not always enable him to acquire all the needful concomitant information; particularly since, whenever better informed, or at any future period, that the additional information may reach him, he is able, unless swelled with the pride of error, to retract or correct any of his former erroneous assertions. But the errors of public bodies and societies, when adopted after mature deliberation and apparent scrutiny, are liable to many difficulties, wherefore they ought to be very cautious in affording their assent to any peculiar fact or doubtful consequence: since we find by experience that their pledge carries a higher degree of conviction to the minds of the illiterate and the enlightened, than any individual responsibility or personal assertion: whereupon the belief of erroneous notions and doubtful facts are propagated and increased. Experience proves likewise that these societies have generally a higher degree of pride than any single individual, and every thing that has been assumed or asserted as a doctrine by them, becomes so far incorporated with themselves, that no consideration can induce them to retract it, even if it should prove afterwards to be founded upon error, illusion, or false reasoning. We have even seen whole universities, schools and academies, presuming to foster and teach obsolete doctrines, many years after experience and the unanimous consent of the learned had proved their fallacious nature. These considerations induce us to regret that the Academy to which we are indebted for the volume before us, should have ventured to give its assent and sanction to some conclusions whereof we trust to be able to show the inaccuracy; although we do not despair that it may forbear to assume the usual pride of consolidated bodies, and adopt the more correct doctrine, which leaves every one at liberty to improve one's self, and correct what deserves correction.

We are inclined to feel that confidence, while we observe that this Academy has already shown itself favourable to the improvements introduced in zoology and botany by the French schools. In its zoological papers, which exceed by far any other, the new genera of the French zoologists are adopted, instead of the old generic divisions of Linnæus; and in the botanical papers, an attempt is made to adopt the natural method, instead of the sexual

system. These bold attempts, which are quite a novelty on this side of the Atlantic, are highly commendable, since it is time that we should no longer follow the old inaccurate track of the worshippers of Linnæus, nor borrow every sort of knowledge from that insulated spot to the northwest of Europe, where a jealous rivalry often forbids the majority of writers to adopt any improvements originating beyond the narrow boundaries of their island. How long did they struggle against the Linnæan improvements? and how long will they yet keep blind to the evidence of late improvements, is difficult to say; but we trust that the example of their stubbornness will no longer be imitated, now that the Academy of Philadelphia has partly led the way.

But when we commend and urge the necessity of the adoption of such wise improvements, as are founded upon new discoveries and reasonable principles, we do not imply, by any means, that all the Linnæan doctrines should be set aside: nothing is further from our intention; it is merely in such systematical and inaccurate parts as are rendered obsolete, that we deem useless to persist, and particularly in his zoological and sexual system, whose imperfections were incident on the actual state of knowledge at the time they were ushered, and are now become totally inadequate to fulfil the purpose for which they were intended; other superior methods having superseded them, which are more suitable to the actual state of natural knowledge. Thus very few have dared to oppose the rules introduced by Linnæus in his *Philosophia Botanica*, and *Critica Botanica*, they were the happy means of reforming the science of botany, and it is upon them that the scientific construction of that science reposes at this time, and will probably forever: the only changes attempted have been some trifling corrections, modifications and additions; they have been since extended to zoology and other natural sciences with the greatest success. His sexual system has nothing to do with those rules: Linnæus admitted the natural method in zoology; but despaired of the practicability of its application to botany, wherefore he endeavoured to supply it by an artificial system, of which defects he was well aware, and attempted in vain to veil. Now that the national method of Botany is in successful forwardness, it must supersede altogether this uncouth and momentary system; we have no doubt that if Linnæus had lived to this day, he would have approved of this needful

change, and also of the improvements introduced in zoological classification.

Nobody would dare to propose the re-establishment of the old botanical nomenclature, when the name of a single plant was composed of ten or twenty words or names; nor ought any one to attempt to carry us back to the confusion of generic names, which was dispelled by the Linnæan reform, when a genus had several names, or compound names, or diminutive names, such as, *Alsine*, *Alsinoides*, *Alsinastrum*, *Alsinella*, *Alsinaria*, *Alsinastroides*, *Pseudo-Alsine*, &c. Yet many botanists of the French school have committed such an error, because they study very little the Linnæan rules, and the Academy of Philadelphia is now beginning to follow the same mistaken path. We even know of a few botanists who do it intentionally, despising so far Linnæus, that they would overthrow altogether his mighty nomenclature, and if they have not dared yet to abolish the Linnæan names, they endeavour, whenever new genera are to be framed, to recall the old obsolete blundering names of former botanists, or to coin similar ones of the same stamp. When reminded of their mistake, they pretend that any name will do, as the old botanists used to say; that we have in the vulgar languages many synonymical, omonymical, derivative and compound names for different things, and that the language of botany and zoology, will not be the worse, for imitating our vulgar languages in that respect. But the absurdity and temerity of this evasive pretext must be evident to every reflecting mind. The language of those sciences, is founded upon sound scientific principles, it has been totally reformed and established by Linnæus, arising with splendour from the greatest confusion; it has its peculiar laws, rules, and grammar; it is common to all the nations of European origin; and, therefore, almost universal: it is intended to distinguish, at first glance, every generic object from every other, providing against the possibility of difficulties and ambiguities: every genus is the type of a peculiar structure and organization, and its name must be deemed typical and radical, &c. &c. We might proceed to state the evident consequences of this state of things; and we might fill a volume to prove at length the correctness of the principles which we advocate; but it will, perhaps, be sufficient to refer any one to the philosophical works of Linnæus, and we shall conclude by observing, that the ultimate consequence of this new confusion will be, that as soon as

a new genus shall be introduced by a bad or doubtful name, another good name will be given to it by those who contend for the purity of generic nomenclature, and sometimes many such names may be proposed by different authors at a distance; whereby such new genera will acquire two names, or perhaps several names, and in the succession of time, when deliberate attention will be paid to the subject, the evidence of correct principles must certainly prevail, and the erroneous names will have a poor chance of success; they will be forgotten, as those of Morison, Plukenet, Ray, Bauhin, &c. are at this time, and their authors will share the fate of those eminent authors, whose labours are of no use to nomenclature, owing to the defects which they fostered.

Nine new genera have been established in this Journal, 3 of which belong to botany, *Crypta*, *Hemianthus* and *Collinsia*; and 6 to zoology, *Firoloida*, *Cerapus*, *Sesarma*, *Catostomus*, *Monolepis* and *Mammillifera*. Many of these bear erroneous denominations.

Crypta of Nuttall. This name is already the root of several botanical genera, and of even the Linnæan class Cryptogamia; it is found in the genera *Cryptandra*, *Cryptocephalus*, *Cryptophthalmus*, *Cryptostemon*, &c. It is, besides, against the Linnæan rules to frame a generic name from a single adjective, without a modification: it would have been very easy and proper to have lengthened it into *Cryptina*, or *Cryptella*, or *Cryptaria*. We, therefore, propose to substitute the first of these names *Cryptina*.

Collinsia of Nuttall, is nearly in the same case, since it appears to be only a root or contraction of *Collinsonia*; it would be more proper to modify it into *Collinsiana*.

Firoloida of Lesueur, is composed from *Firola*, with an obsolete and obnoxious termination; it must be changed altogether: we propose to substitute the significative name of *Pyrlymnus*, meaning naked nucleus.

Mammillifera of Lesueur, is rather too long; it is too much like *Mammillaria* in meaning and sense, and is composed of two Latin names united, which are tolerated in the specific nomenclature, but not often in the generic; lastly, it has too much likeness to the classical name of *Mammalia* to be tolerated. It must then be changed into *Actimastus*; meaning radiated mammilla.

Cerapus of Say, is a good name, if the bad name of *Apus*, Latreille. (*Phyllopus*

Rafinesque,) is not admitted; otherwise both become worse than bad.

Some bad genera of other authors, have been admitted, which it may be well to notice likewise.

Lissa of Leach, is too short, and is contained in *Melissa*, &c. it must be modified into *Lissula*.

Lupa of Leach, is too short, and the root of *Lupinus*; it must be changed into *Lupania*.

Lymnea of Lamark, root to *Limnetis*, is too similar to *Limnea*, &c.—it would be well to modify it into *Lymnella*.

Hippa of Fabricius, means a horse! and is partial root of 20 different genera, such as *Hippophæ*, *Hippomane*, *Hippuris*, &c. Why not admit and adopt the anterior and better name *Emerita* of Gronovius?

Caryophyllea of Lamark, is almost identical with *Caryophyllus*: Rafinesque had changed it into *Nerania*.

Corticifera is quite a specific name, inadmissible for genera; the name of *Phorophylus*, which has nearly the same meaning, might be substituted.

We shall proceed to notice the tracts of this Journal, in the order of succession.

1. Contains the descriptions of 6 new species of *Firola*, with figures, by Mr. Lesueur: from the Mediterranean, where the family they belong to is very common, and many new genera exist. A good anatomical description of the genus is prefixed.

2. Account of the *Ovis montana* by Mr. Ord. He calls by that name the white wild sheep of the rocky mountains, which has been called *Mazama dorsata* by Rafinesque, since it belongs to that genus rather than to the *Ovis*, having solid horns not spiral.

3. Twelve new species of American fresh water shells of the genera *Cyclostoma*, *Succinea*, *Ancylus*, *Paludina*, *Helix*, &c. by Mr. Say. This author has begun to elucidate with much ability the subject of American Conchology, and has adopted the improvements of French authors.

4. Descriptions of eight N. Sp. of North-American insects, of the genera *Cicindela*, *Nemognatha*, *Zonitis*, and *Diopsis*, by Mr. Say, who shows himself an able entomologist of the modern school.

5. Observations on the genus *Eriogonum*, by Mr. Nuttall. He gives a sort of monography of it, and adds many pertinent remarks on the natural family of Polygoneous, which, however, awaits yet the reforming hand of an able botanist.

6. Description of the genus *Firoloida*, by Lesueur, or rather *Pyrrhynus*, and of

3 species of it, found in the Atlantic. This genus differs from the genus *Hypterus* of Rafinesque, by its dorsal fin.

7. Description of 3 N. Sp. of the G. *Raja* from North America. This Linnaean genus forms a natural tribe, containing many different genera: the *R. maclura* of Lesueur belongs to the genus *Uroxys* Raf. having neither dorsal nor anal fin: the *R. say*, having both, belongs to the genus *Hypanus* Raf. and the *R. quadriloba*, belongs to the G. *Platopterus* Raf. having only a dorsal fin on the tail.

8. Account of the Hessian fly, *Cecidonia destructor*, and its enemy the *Ceraphron destructor*, by Mr. Say; with a very good scientific description of them, with figures.

9. A N. G. of crustaceous *Cerapus tubularis*, by Mr. Say; with a figure, very near to the genus *Jassa* of Leach.

10. Description of the *Tantulus mexicanus*, (found in New-Jersey and Maryland) by Mr. Ord.

11. Description of two new genera *Monolepis* and *Sesarma*, and 23 species of North-American Crustacea, whereof 15 are new, by Mr. Say; with many figures. They belong to the genera *Cancer*, *Portunus*, *Pinnotheres*, *Ocypode*, *Libinia*, *Plagusia*, *Pagurus*, *Astacus*, &c. Mr. Say has adopted the improvements of Latrille and Leach, on the genus *Cancer* of Linnaeus, which is now become, by the discoveries of many writers, a class, containing more than 100 genera and 1000 species! His descriptions are very minute, yet sometimes confused and defective in a few points. We advise to compare his *Ocypode reticulatus* with the *O. pusilla* of Rafinesque's account of some N. G. and Sp. of North American Crustacea, in American Monthly Magazine, vol. 2. p. 40. His *Astacus affinis* with *A. limosus* Raf. ditto; his *Pagurus longicarpus* with *P. truncatulus* Raf. ditto; and his *Hippa talpoida* to *Nectylus rugosus* Raf. ditto; as they may happen to be identical or very near related to each other.

12. On five new species of American eels, by Mr. Lesueur; he refers them to the genus *Murena* of Linnaeus and Lacepede; while they belong to the genus *Anguilla* of Shaw and Rafinesque; the *Murena* is a different genus from the eels, which name Lecepede has changed, without any reason, into *Gymnothorax*, a denomination that applies to 60 genera of fishes!

13. On two new species of cod, from lake Erie and the river Connecticut, by

Mr. Lesueur. They have only two dorsal fins, and belong therefore to the genus *Mertucius* rather than *Gadus*, which has three dorsal fins.

14. Description of the *Cyprinus maxilllingua*, a N. Sp. by Mr. Lesueur. He intimates that it might form a new genus, which has been established by Rafinesque on this, and another species, by the name of *Exoglossum*, in the Physical Journal

15. Description of the *Testudo geographica* of lake Erie, with a figure, by Mr. Lesueur. It has palmated feet, and is not, therefore, a real *Testudo* of Dumeril and the moderns.

16. Monography of the *Catostomus*, a new genus of fish, by Mr. Lesueur. It is a section from the extensive genus *Cyprinus*, of which Mr. L. describes 18 species. Many other sections must be made in that genus, before it becomes better understood.

17. Description of two N. G. of plants, *Crypta* and *Hemianthus*, and two species of *Tillea* and *Limosella*, by Mr. Nuttall, with figures of the N. G. He calls the *Tillæa*, *T. Simplex*, which is right. Dr. Ives of New-Haven, had discovered it first (not since, as stated,) and described it under the name of the *T. connata* of Peru. The *Limosella* has been considered by both Dr. Ives and Mr. Nuttall, as the *L. tenuifolia* of Europe; but the figure given by Dr. Ives, in the Transactions of the Physico-Medical Society of New-York, is adequate to prove their error: it is a distinct species, which may be called *L. brachistema*. We shall now undertake to assert and prove that Mr. Nuttall and the Academy are mistaken, in regard to the natural affinities and arrangement of his two new genera. He states that the N. G. *Cryptina* belongs to the natural family of *Portulaceæ*, next to the genera *Portulaca* and *Montia*; but the *Portulacæ* differs from *Cryptina* by having the stamina in heterogonous number, not inserted on the petals nor opposed thereto, and *Montia* by its peripetal corolla bearing the stamina, characters of the utmost consequence. We deem that the nearest genus to *Cryptina*, is *Claytonia*, which only differs by the number of stamina, petals, and cells, which are all characters of a variable and unessential nature. Its natural classification is then in the natural class *Elltrogynia*, 6th natural order *Plyrontia*, distinguished by having one ovary, the stamina isogone and opposed to the petals or alternate with the calyx: in this order *Rhamnus*, *Berberis*, and *Vitis*, are the types of as many natural families, and next to them *Cryp-*

tina and *Claytonia*, must form another natural family, to which many other genera will probably become annexed afterwards: it may be called *Epionyxia*, or the *Epiopryxe*, and characterised as follows: calyx diphyllæ; corolla several petals; stamina in equal number and inserted upon them. Several stigmas. Capsul with several cells, valves, and seeds. Leaves simple, opposite, &c.

The N. G. *Hemianthus* of Nuttall, is rightly approximated to *Micranthemum*; but both are very wrongly united to the natural order of *Lysimachious*, which has a regular corolla, the stamina in equal number and opposed to its divisions. It is by these unhappy attempts and examples that the correct botanists become disgusted with the beautiful natural classification, thinking that those connexions are perfectly illusive, since so many are founded on mistaken references. The genera *Hemianthus*, *Micranthemum*, and even the N. G. *Collinsia* of Mr. Nuttall, or rather *Collinsiana*, belong all to the second natural class *Mesogynia*. 5th natural order *Chasmanthia* or the *Personate*, and to its first sub-order, *Monorimia* distinguished by its monolocular fruit. There are at least three distinct natural families included within this sub-order. 1. *Aplendinia* distinguished by a berry for fruit, and to which belong the genera *Besleria*, *Brunsfelsia*, *Crescentia*, *Tanæcium*, *Mitraria*, *Tripinnaria*, &c. 2. The natural family *Clythrelia*, formed by *Utricularia* and *Pinguicula*, very distinct by its capsul, bilobed calyx, spurred corolla, 2 stamens, &c. And the third will be the natural family *Hemilidia*, whose characters are, a capsul, calyx with many divisions, corolla without spur, 2 or 4 stamens. &c. It may be subdivided in two sub-families, the first *Hemianthia*, will contain all the genera with two anthera only, such as *Micranthemum*, *Hemianthus*, *Stemopus*, (*Limosella diandra*, Wild.) &c. and perhaps *Lindernia*! while the second *Limosellinia*, with 4 unequal stamina and 4 fertile anthera, shall contain the genera *Browallia*, *Limosella*, *Phaylloopsis*, *Conobea*, *Mecardonia*, and *Collinsiana*, (*Collinsia* of Nuttall,) all united by the same characters.

18. Descriptions of four new species and two varieties of the G. *Hydrargyra*, by Mr. Lesueur. A North-American genus of fish.

19. Observations on the geology of the West-India islands, from Barbadoes to Santa Cruz, by Mr. Maclure. These observations are very valuable, although not entirely new: it was well known that all the Carribbean islands were of volcanic

origin; but Mr. M. has confirmed that fact, and thrown some light on the subject of their formation, and actual state.

20. Description of 15 new species of the G. *Actinia*; 3 N. Sp. of the G. *Zoanthus*; 2 N. Sp. of a N. G. *Mammillifera*, &c. by Mr. Lesueur, with some figures. The genus *Actinia* of Linnæus is increasing so fast by new discoveries, that it will soon contain over 100 known species; some divisions and amendments will, therefore, become requisite, as it is invariably the case when our knowledge of beings increases: eight new genera have been proposed already in the *Analysis of Nature*, by Rafinesque: several species of Lesueur belong to his genera *Stomanthus*, *Aptostepha*, &c.

21. New genus *Collinsia*, by Mr. Nuttall, with a coloured figure; we have already made the needful observations on the name and classification of this genus.

It will be perceived that implicit confidence is not always to be given to the la-

hours of this Academy; but we trust that the published facts and descriptions are correct and to be depended upon. Whatever be our reluctance to admit incorrect principles, from whomsoever they emanate, we are always glad to be furnished with new materials, and to perceive zealous exertions in the cause of science. Every single new species or new genus discovered or introduced is a conquest made by knowledge over nullity, and brings us at once in relative connexion with it. From this motive, and our conviction that numberless beings, unknown to us, exist as yet every where, we feel inclined to wish complete success to the Academy of Philadelphia in their future labours, exertions and publications, and we should wish that many other similar institutions in our country, which are merely known by name, might be induced to give us occasionally a similar evidence of their zeal.

C. S. R.

ART. 5. *The Lord of the Isles; a Poem.* By WALTER SCOTT, Esq. 12mo. pp. 307. Philadelphia. Moses Thomas. 1815.

THIS is a finely-told, though, perhaps, not a well-arranged tale; abounding in vivid description, though deficient in strongly-marked characters. The narrative, in its general tone, is rich and vigorous, yet occasionally perplexing, from the unexplained suddenness of its transitions, while, at the same time, it is but just to admit that it is not infrequently lighted up by a gleam of the diviner faculty. In common also with Mr. Scott's preceding works, it is disfigured by ungraceful abruptnesses, contorted phraseology, and passages of prosaic tameness.

"*Rokeby*," of all Mr. Scott's poems—we will not except even "*The Lay of the last Minstrel*"—is the best entitled to deliberate panegyric. Its story is interesting, arranged with clearness, and with no less attention to dramatic effect. The characters are strongly drawn, and vividly contrasted. In the descriptive parts, the poet has shown that though he may feel all the partiality of a native for the sublime landscapes of Scotland, he can, nevertheless paint, and with the hand of a master, the softer beauties of English scenery. The language of "*Rokeby*" is, generally speaking, decidedly superior to that of his former productions. Retaining what was estimable in the verse of "*The Lay*," "*Marmion*," and "*The Lady of the Lake*"—

its simplicity and pathos—the verse of *Rokeby* is distinguished by qualities of a higher kind. It is imbued with the evidence of a maturer genius than is exhibited in any of the poems we have enumerated. It is more condensed, vigorous, and palpably splendid. It has more dignity, and less puerility. The judicious employment of antithesis and inversion gives it increased energy, and much was gained by the adoption of alliterative words, and the repercussive effect of transposition. In fine, if the eulogium bestowed on Mr. Scott of having "*triumphed over the fatal facility of the octosyllabic verse*" be well deserved, its justification is to be sought for in the language of *Rokeby*. The verse of "*The Lord of the Isles*" displays no improvement in Mr. Scott's style since the publication of its predecessor. Its general complexion is more ballad-like, and it may be fairly stated to hold a medium rank between that of "*Rokeby*" and the earlier compositions of Mr. Scott. It is more lax and diffuse than that of the first, yet more compressed than that of the last. Than that of "*Rokeby*," the language is less stern and stately; than that of "*The Lay*," &c. more lofty and emphatic. If it do not manifest so many of the lighter graces as "*The Lay*," neither is it so deeply marked with the

features of dignity as "*Rokeby*." Its general colouring is warmer than that of the former, but very inferior to the rich and glowing tints of the latter. Its step is more certain and specific than that of "*The Lay*," than that of "*Rokeby*" less confident and composed. The language of the "*Lord of the Isles*," in fine, occupies much the same station between the styles of "*The Lay*," &c. and "*Rokeby*," which adolescence holds between infancy and manhood.

We now proceed to sketch the story of the poem.

The *first Canto* opens with a song chaunted by the minstrels of Ronald, Lord of the Isles, beneath the walls of Artornish Castle, in celebration of his approaching marriage with Edith of Lorn. The lady, who has been conveyed to Artornish by her brother, there to await the arrival of the bridegroom (a circumstance not uncommon in that age), listens with cold indifference to the lay of the bards, and upon the kind expostulation of her foster-mother, bursts into an impassioned declaration that "*he*," Ronald, with whom *she* is deeply enamoured, "*loves her not*," and appeals, in proof of her assertion, to his tardy and reluctant approach. Her aged nurse endeavours, but in vain, to soothe the agitation of her spirits. This scene is, at length, terminated by their descrying the fleet of Ronald, adorned with silken streamers, and otherwise sumptuously decorated, bearing down from Aros Bay to the halls of Artornish. At the same instant a slight and wave-tossed skiff is discovered, past which the nuptial armada sails, regardless of her distressed condition. The weather-beaten bark, we are given to understand, contains, besides her crew, two knights and their sister, personages of high rank, whose adventures are closely interwoven with the business of the poem, and who are at last forced, by the increasing fury of the elements, to seek shelter within the walls of the fortress, which, during the whole day, they had strenuously endeavoured to avoid. The description of the vessels' approach to the castle through the tempestuous and sparkling waters, and the contrast between the gloomy aspect of the billows and the glittering splendours of Artornish,

"'Tween cloud and ocean hung,"

sending her radiance abroad through the terrors of the night, and mingling at intervals the shouts of her revelry with the wilder cadence of the blast, is a fine instance of Mr. Scott's felicity in awful and

magnificent scenery. The canto concludes with the arrival of the strangers at Artornish, and the warder's announcement of his illustrious and reluctant visitors to the Lord of the Isles.

Canto the second. Ronald, seated at the head of the banquet-table, endeavours, by a display of boisterous mirth, to conceal some powerful emotion which, though unnoticed by the guests, is observed with anguish by his lovely bride. Suddenly the winding of the bugle at the portal of Artornish declares the supposed arrival of the Abbot of St. Iona to solemnize the nuptials,—he drops the "untasted goblet," but is relieved by the intelligence of the warder that three noble looking strangers claim at his hands the right of hospitality. The seneschal is directed to introduce them; they enter, and struck by their lofty and dignified bearing, he assigns them stations above all the company, at which every one, but more especially the chief of Lorn, the brother of Edith, is much incensed. Lorn, however, who is in traitorous league with the English king against the Bruce, guessing the rank of the strangers, commands one of the minstrels to chaunt an insulting song, recording the successful issue, in favour of the rebel, of a combat between him and his sovereign. At the close, the younger stranger, who has been previously irritated by Lorn's insolent interrogatories, lays his hand upon his sword with the intention of executing summary justice upon the offender, but is checked by the elder knight, who, however, in addressing the minstrel, at once realizes the suspicion, and galls the pride of the traitor. Further concealment is impossible—the strangers are the king, his brother, and their sister the princess Isobel. Tumult of the most ferocious kind succeeds this discovery. Loudly and savagely, Lorn insists upon the murder of his sovereign, in atonement for the death of his kinsman Comyn, slain at the altar by the Bruce, in resentment of his treasons; while Ronald as warmly asserts the sacredness of hospitable claims. His ardour is increased by the appeal of the princess for his protection of her brothers; and now breaks forth the cause of the perturbation he manifested at the commencement of the canto—the royal charms of Isobel, from whose hand he had formerly and frequently received the prize at tournaments, have seduced his heart from the object of his earlier and affianced affections. The broil becomes fiercer, when the announcement of the Abbot prevents the

effusion of blood, and the rebel consents to refer the case to the monk, and abide by his decision. The Abbot enters, and after hearing the malignant charges of Lorn against his sovereign, in which the death of Comyn forms the principal, turns round upon the king with a cold stern visage, and questions him why he should not instantly give him up to the man who is thirsting for his blood?—The Bruce, with brief and haughty eloquence, justifies the deed politically, but admits, that as a violation of religious precept, it requires atonement. The conception and execution of the ensuing stanzas constitute excellence which it would be difficult to match from any other part of the poem. The surprise is grand and perfect. Struck with the heroism of Robert, the monk foregoes the intended anathema, and bursts out into a prophetic annunciation of his final triumph over all his enemies, and the veneration in which his name will be held by posterity. In the burthen of these stanzas,

"I bless thee, and thou shalt be blessed;"

closing a series of prophesied misfortunes, there is an energy that immediately makes itself felt, and these few and simple words surpass in effect passages less happy in their application, though more laboured and tortuous in their construction.

Canto the third. Notwithstanding the Abbot's decision, Lorn remains impenitently contumacious, and reproachfully rejects Ronald's proposal of reconciliation with the Bruce. The rebel chief summons his train, and prepares to depart with his sister, who, it is now discovered, has flown. Terrified by his declared resolution of giving her hand to the earl of Cumberland, she has taken advantage of the confusion to quit the castle, under the protection, it is supposed, of the abbot. Her elopement adds to the exasperation of Lorn, and after ordering a galley in pursuit of the fugitive, he leaves Artornish with a mind galled to madness. With the exception of Torquil, lord of Dunvegan, the rest of the chiefs, among whom are many who have returned to their allegiance, disperse. The king retires to repose, under the pledged protection of the Lord of the Isles, who at midnight interrupts his rest, to assure him of his perfect devotion to his cause. With the morning's dawn they prepare to embark for the Isles to excite their martial inhabitants to arms: while prince Edward is charged to convey the lady Isobel for security, to Ireland, and, in his way,

"To muster up each scattered friend."

The king and Ronald set sail with favourable gales, but the wind shifting, they are forced upon the shore of Skye. The solitary aspect of the place induces the Bruce, accompanied by Ronald, and his page Allan, to land in search of game. While they are contemplating the dreary but sublime scene of the isle, they are accosted by five vulgar and sulky-featured men, whom Ronald, by the badges on their bonnets, supposes to be vassals of Lorn. These individuals "of evil mien," after informing them that their bark, upon the appearance of an English vessel, hoisted sail, invite the monarch and his companions to share with them a deer they have just slain. The king and his party give a wary assent, and they proceed to the cabin of their sullen hosts, with whom, however, they refuse to sit at the same table, and concert their security for the night by appointing a watch to be kept by one of the company while the others repose. Ronald is the first sentinel, and easily maintains his insomnolency by reflections on the charms of Isobel, and plighted faith to Edith of Lorn. The next watch is undertaken by the king, and the royal mind, filled with lofty and anxious thoughts on his own and Scotland's fortunes, defies the approach of sleep. Allan's turn succeeds, and, for a time, the page's eyes are kept tolerably steadfast by the recollection of his boyish haunts and sports, the fond remembrance of his mother,

"His little sister's green-wood bower,"

and all the wildly-fanciful stories of enchantment that delighted the days of his childhood. Sleep at length weighs down his lids, and—he dies by the hand of one of the wakeful ruffians. His expiring groan rouses the king, who instantly dispatches the murderer with one of his own firebrands. Ronald awakes, and in conjunction with the Bruce, speedily masters the remaining banditti, who in their last moments confess themselves the sworn liegemen of Lorn. They lament the sad destiny of Allan, and taking under their protection a beautiful but dumb boy, asserted by the villains to have been rescued by them from a shipwrecked bark the preceding day, sorrowfully quit the blood-stained hut.

Canto the fourth. Prince Edward returns from his mission with the joyous intelligence of the death of the English monarch, the arming of the patriots, and the arrival of his band in the island of Arran. For Arran they depart in the vessel which conveyed the prince from Ireland;

and in their progress through the Hebrides, rouse to action the martial chiefs and population of the west. Arrived at Brodick-bay, in Arran, the Bruce is joined by Douglas, Boyd, Lennox, De La Haye, &c. and their unshrinking soldiery. The king here visits his sister, who, we are surprised to find, is residing in the convent of St. Bride; the dumb boy, accompanies him as the future attendant upon the princess; and the Bruce performs his promise to Ronald of pleading his suit with Isobel. Isobel in answer, and in the presence of her new page, earnestly assures her brother of her determination not to listen to the vows of her lover, until he lays at her feet,

“The ring which bound the faith he swore,
By Edith freely yielded o’er,”

and an acquittal from his engagement with that lovely wanderer,

“By her who brooks his perjur’d scorn.”

Robert departs, and the Canto concludes with his resolution immediately to attempt the recovery of his patrimonial castle and demesne of Carrick from Clifford its English and usurping tenant.

Canto the fifth discovers Isobel performing her matin devotions in the cloister of St. Bride. Rising from her orisons, she perceives on the floor of her cell, a packet, addressed to herself. She opens it—it contains a ring, and a resignation by Edith of all her claims upon Ronald. Her astonishment is increased when upon inquiry whether any stranger has been admitted into the nunnery since the visit of the Bruce, the portress replies in the negative, but informs her that the dumb page has flown! Is the mystery unravelled?—Was it Edith herself?—The princess instantly despatches a messenger to the army to seek the page. The messenger, a monk, finds that the page has been despatched by the prince to the opposite shore, to agree with the friends of the king upon signals for the attack upon Carrick. The fleet sets sail, steering towards the flaming beacon, kindled by the patriots on the Carrick shore. The picturesque effect of the illumination on the woody promontories and jutting rocks, is very vividly described. They proceed with hope, but the fierce and broad spreading of the flame, and its sudden extinction, raise doubts in all but Edward of its human origin. They land—the dumb stripling joins them, bringing a letter from an adherent of the Bruce, informing him that the English are in force at Carrick, that Lorn and his rebels

have just joined the band of Clifford, and confirming their apprehensions concerning the mysterious and alarming beacon. Daunted for a moment by these discouraging tidings, the never-desponding prince revives their spirits,

—————“hap what may,
In Carrick Carrick’s lord must stay;”

and with renovated ardour they proceed to take up a position in the vicinity of the fortress, there to concert the best plan of storming the place. The page accompanies their march, cheered and supported by Ronald; but the stripling’s strength proving unequal to the rapid and toilsome progress over the rough and broken ground, he is left behind in the hollow of a large oak, where he is discovered by a reconnoitering party of the English garrison. Dragged before Clifford and Lorn, and refusing to answer their questions, they order him to immediate death. At the place of execution, the prayers and funeral lament for the victim reach the royal party, which is stationed in ambush in the vicinity. Ronald burns for the instant attack—the king assures the impatient warrior that

—————“they shall not harm,
A ringlet of the stripling’s hair,”

but desires him to wait till the troops have been disposed so as to cut off all communication between the garrison and the detachment encircling the captive. To Edward is assigned the task of securing the drawbridge of the castle, and to Douglas that of intercepting the fugitives. The signal for the assault, a spear raised by the latter over the copse of his appointed station, is speedily given by the valiant earl. The strife begins—the page is rescued—and the enemy annihilated. At the same moment the prince attacks and secures the fortress—Clifford is slain—Lorn escapes—and Carrick is once more in possession of its rightful owner.

Canto the sixth. Isobel has taken the vows in St. Bride’s convent. The dumb page, now confessedly the maid of Lorn, at least to the princess, has been sent to the convent for his, or we should rather say *her*, personal safety. The glorious achievements and triumphs of the Bruce during the seven succeeding years, are then recorded in about *ten* verses, and we pounce on the mutual preparations for the decisive conflict of Bannockbourn. Here the immediate thread of the narrative is broken, to inform us of Edith’s departure for the royal camp in her former disguise, to convince herself of the re-

newed affection of the *faithful* Lord of the Isles for the fair object of his early and ardent adoration—that gallant and prudent chief, easily foregoing his love for Isobel on her taking the veil, and with a praiseworthy attention to his worldly affairs, resuming his suit to Edith upon discovering the king's intention of conferring upon the Maid of Lorn the confiscated lands of her rebellious brother. She arrives at the camp the evening before the battle, and reveals her sex and name to the king. The Bruce assures her of his tenderest friendship, and places her on an eminence in the rear of the army, with the attendants of the camp. Then follows the battle, in the description of which, though little varied from the chronicles of the times, there is a glow and animation which render it inferior only to the admirable stanzas in which Mr. Scott has immortalized the *defeat* of his countrymen at Flodden. At the close of the combat, Edith, still disguised as the page, and alarmed at the danger of her lover, forgets her dissembled dumbness, and passionately calls upon the retainers of the camp to marshal themselves in military show, and bear down to the assistance of the army. They obey with shouts of rapture the call which appears to them the miraculous interposition of heaven in favour of Scotland; and the English host, deeming them to be fresh troops advancing to succour the Bruce, is seized with a confusion and panic, and borne down and vanquished on every side. The poem terminates with the king's order to make princely preparations for the nuptials of Edith with the Lord of the Isles (whose pardon for his amorous perjury he has secured from the Maid of Lorn,) to be celebrated at the abbey of Cambuskenneth immediately after the mass for the victory of Bannockbourn.

Such is the story of the Lord of the Isles; and the reader, if he has had patience to read the whole of our *examen*, must, we think, have gathered sufficient evidence of the impropriety of the title, and felt that the dignity of the main subject, is much injured by the paltry underplot attached to it. In a poem where Robert, the Bruce, appears, how is it possible that we should interest ourselves in the adventures of so insignificant a person as Ronald. But this is not the only defect. There are several contradictions,—of history—character—and of the poet by himself.

Of *history*, a striking one occurs in the capture of Carrick, which did not take place for some years after the time men-

tioned; an attack was made, it is true, and a considerable advantage gained by the Bruce on his return from Ireland, not, however, against Clifford, but earl Percy. Clifford was in the action, under Percy, but was *not* slain; he fell at Bannockbourn.

Of the contradictions of *character* it will be sufficient to bring forward one in that of the Bruce. Unquestionably, that heroic monarch was of a temper never surpassed for humanity, munificence, and nobleness; yet to represent him sorrowing over the death of the First Plantagenet—after the repeated and tremendous ills inflicted by him on Scotland—the patriot Wallace murdered by his order, as well as the royal race of Wales; and the brothers of the Bruce slaughtered by his command—to represent, we repeat, the just and generous Robert, feeling an instant's compassion for the death of such a man, is, in a Scottish poet, so unnatural a violation of truth and decency, not to say patriotism, that we are really astonished that the author could have conceived the idea, much more that he could suffer his pen to record it. This abasement on the part of the Bruce is farther heightened by the king's half reprehension of the prince's stern and noble expression of undying hatred against his country's spoiler and family's assassin.

Mr. Scott, we have said, contradicts himself. How will he reconcile the following facts to the satisfaction of his readers? The third canto informs us that Isobel accompanies Edward to Ireland, there to remain till the termination of the war; and in the *fourth*, the second day after her departure, we discover the princess counting her beads, and reading homilies in the cloister of St. Bride.

Of the characters, prince Edward is, most decidedly, our favourite. Of unshaken resolution, a valour reckless of all danger, romantic and ardent, we always find him at the post of peril, heedless of opposition, and beating down resistance. Of matchless activity, and burning to distinguish himself, in action, in council, Edward is ever the first to advise, to perform. The Bruce, according to our notions of a hero, is a good deal too calm,—too willing to think and say polite things of his adversary,—too ready to reprehend the fine effusions of his brother's generous spirit. Mr. Scott has aimed at contrast by investing the king with a dignity of mind and language superior to that of the prince, but we cannot think he has been altogether successful, for surely the chief quality of a hero is the energy which over-

comes all obstacle. Now, of this quality Edward indisputably possesses a greater degree than his wiser brother, and we frequently feel that the sage preparation and frigid manœuvring of the Bruce would fail altogether where the unhesitating impetuosity of Edward would command success. Ronald is an abortion. Lorn is admirably sketched, and the character of Torquil of Dunvegan—his blunt integrity, substantial patriotism, and rugged magnanimity—all bodied forth in a sort of wildly-poetical speech, very much to the purpose, however—constitute this Hebridean chief a most interesting original in his way. We were surprised not to find him in the battle. It is not irrelevant to remark, by the way, that in his narrative of the conflict of Bannockbourn, Mr. Scott seems more anxious to blazon the pomp and valour of his country's ravagers, than to paint the conquering heroism of the Bruce and his chieftains. For one Scottish name of distinction, we find at least half a dozen English; and the fall of De Argentine, a brave English knight, is adorned with more circumstances of splendour than the deeds of the Bruce himself. Of the ladies Isobel and Edith, little have we to say, for little is it they do. Isobel evidently takes the veil merely out of good-nature to the maid of Lorn, who, notwithstanding the prudential fickleness of Ronald, cherishes a most disheartening attachment to the recreant. The story of the dumb page, though occasionally giving birth to situations of interest, is, upon the whole, a mawkish contrivance—a new dressing up of a very old trick. In her character of page, Edith performs nothing that would not have been better executed by any stout lad. The share these ladies possess in the poem, consists principally in tedious and oppressive conversations about their mutual mishaps, and it must be confessed that they do keep up the shuttlecock of chit-chat with a perseverance exceedingly honourable to the daughters of Eve. The most pleasing and natural character in the Lord of the Isles (Allan, the page of Ronald,) we just get a glimpse of, only to see him murdered before our eyes, for no earthly reason that will abide a moment's examination. The poor boy should not have had the task of watching imposed upon his tender years. That was the business of robust frames, and should have been divided between the Bruce and his master.

Examples of forced and uncouth diction are frequent; and there is introduced a very respectable quantity of obsolete

terms, which our grandfathers had very judiciously exiled from their colloquial service. "*Rede*" for *counsel*—"yeoman wight"—"*agen*" for *again*, to rhyme with "*men*"—"erst" for *formerly*—"shrift" for *confession*—"scatheless" for *unhurt*, &c. With similar instances, we might, without much trouble, fill some pages. Of the defects of this interesting poem, for such it is, notwithstanding the censure we have deemed it our duty to bestow, we shall say no more, but hasten to the more pleasing task of presenting our readers with some of its numerous energetic and beautiful passages. Our first extract shall be the Blessing of the Bruce by the Abbot of Iona—

XXX.

"Like man by prodigy amazed,
Upon the king the abbot gazed;
Then o'er his pallid features glance
Convulsions of ecstatic trance.
His breathing came more thick and fast,
And from his pale blue eyes were cast
Strange rays of wild and wandering light;
Uprise his locks of silver white,
Flush'd is his brow, through every vein
In azure tide the currents strain,
And undistinguished accents broke
The awful silence ere he spoke.

XXXI.

'De Bruce! I rose with purpose dread
To speak my curse upon thy head,
And give thee as an outcast o'er
To him who burns to shed thy gore;—
But, like the Midianite of old,
Who stood on Zophim, heaven-control'd,
I feel within my mine aged breast
A power that will not be repress'd.
It prompts my voice, it swells my veins,
It burns, it maddens, it constrains!—
De Bruce, thy sacrilegious blow
Hath at God's altar slain thy foe:
O'er-master'd yet by high behest,
I bless thee, and thou shalt be bless'd!—
He spoke, and o'er the astonished throng
Was silence, awful, deep, and long.

XXXII.

Again that light has fired his eye,
Again his form swells bold and high,
The broken voice of age is gone,
'Tis vigorous manhood's lofty tone:—
'Thrice vanquish'd on the battle-plain,
Thy followers slaughter'd, fled, or ta'en,
A hunted wanderer on the wild,
On foreign shores a man exiled,
Disown'd, deserted and distress'd,
I bless thee, and thou shalt be bless'd;
Bless'd in the hall and in the field,
Under the mantle as the shield.
Avenger of thy country's shame,
Restorer of her injured fame,
Bless'd in thy sceptre and thy sword,
De Bruce, fair Scotland's rightful Lord,
Bless'd in thy deeds and in thy fame,
What lengthen'd honours wait thy name!
In distant ages, sire to son
Shall tell thy tale of freedom won,
And teach his infants, in the use
In earliest speech, to faulter Bruce.

Go, then, triumphant! sweep along
Thy course, the theme of many a song!
The Power, whose dictates swell my breast,
Hath bless'd thee, and thou shalt be bless'd!—

On this transcendent passage we shall only remark that of the gloomy part of the prophecy—we hear nothing more, and though the abbot informs the king that he shall be

“ On foreign shores a man exil'd,”

the poet never speaks of him, up to the battle of Bannockbourn, but as resident in Scotland.

The progress through the islands, and the mustering of the clans is finely described. The eighth stanza is, we think, touchingly beautiful, and breathes a sweet and melancholy tenderness perfectly suitable to the sad tale it records.

VII.

“ Merrily, merrily, bounds the bark
She bounds before the gale,
The mountain breeze from Ben-na-darch
Is joyous in her sail!
With fluttering sound like laughter hoarse,
The cords and canvass strain,
The waves, divided by her force,
In rippling eddies chased her course,
As if they laugh'd again.
Not down the breeze more blithely flew,
Skimming the wave, the light sea-mew,
Than that gay galley bore
Her course upon that favouring wind,
And Coolin's crest has sunk behind,
And Slapin's cavern'd shore.
'Twas then that warlike signals wake
Dunscaith's dark towers and Eisord's lake.
And soon from Cavilgarrigh's head,
Thick wreaths of eddying smoke were spread;
A summons these of war and wrath,
To the brave clans of Sleat and Strath,
And, ready at the sight,
Each warrior to his weapons sprung,
And targe upon his shoulder flung,
Impatient for the fight.
Mac-Kinnon's chief, in warfare gray,
Had charge to muster their array,
And guide their barks to Brodick-bay.

VIII.

Signal of Ronald's high command,
A beacon gleam'd o'er sea and land,
From Canna's tower, that, steep and gray,
Like falcon nest o'erhangs the bay.
Seek not the giddy crag to climb,
To view the turret scathed by time;
It is a task of doubt and fear
To aught but goat or mountain-deer.
But rest thee on the silver beach,
And let the aged herdsman teach
His tale of former day;
His cur's wild clamour he shall chide,
And for thy seat by ocean's side,
His varied plaid display;
Then tell, with Canna's chieftain came,
In ancient times, a foreign dame
To yonder turret gray.
Stern was her Lord's suspicious mind,
Who in so rude a jail confined
So soft and fair a thrall!

And oft when moon on ocean slept,
That lovely lady sate and wept
Upon the castle-wall,
And turn'd her eye to southern climes,
And thought perchance of happier times,
And touch'd her lute by fits, and sung
Wild ditties in her native tongue.
And still, when on the cliff and bay
Placid and pale the moonbeams play,
And every breeze is mute,
Upon the lone Hebridean's ear
Steals a strange pleasure mix'd with fear,
While from that cliff he seems to hear

The murmur of a lute,
And sounds, as of a captive lone,
That mourns her woes in tongue unknown—
Strange is the tale—but all too long
Already hath it staid the song—
Yet who may pass them by,
That crag and tower in ruins gray,
Nor to their hapless tenant pay
The tribute of a sigh!

IX.

Merrily, merrily, bounds the bark
O'er the broad ocean driven,
Her path by Ronin's mountains dark
The steersman's hand has given.
And Ronin's mountains dark have sent
Their hunters to the shore,
And each his ashen bow unbent,
And gave his pastime o'er,
And at the Island Lord's command,
For hunting spear took warrior's brand.
On Scooreigg next a warning light
Summon'd her warriors to the fight;
A numerous race, ere stern Macleod
O'er their bleak shores in vengeance strode,
When all in vain the ocean cave
Its refuge to his victims gave.
The Chief, relentless in his wrath,
With blazing heath blockades the path;
In dense and stifling volumes roll'd,
The vapour fill'd the cavern'd Hold!
The warrior-threat, the infant's plain,
The mother's screams, were heard in vain;
The vengeful Chief maintains his fires,
Till in the vault a tribe expires!
The bones which strew that cavern's gloom,
Too well attest their dismal doom.

X.

Merrily, merrily, goes the bark
On a breeze from the northward free,
So shoots through the morning sky the lark,
Or the swan through the summer sea.
The shores of Mull on the eastward lay,
And Ulva dark and Colonsay,
And all the group of islets gay
That guard famed Staffa round.
Then all unknown its columns rose,
Where dark and undisturb'd repose
The cormorant had found,
And the shy seal had quiet home,
And welter'd in that wondrous dome,
Where, as to shame the temples deck'd
By skill of earthly architect,
Nature herself, it seem'd, would raise
A Minster to her Maker's praise!
Not for a meaner use ascend
Her columns, or her arches bend;
Nor of a theme less solemn tells
That mighty surge that ebbs and swells,
And still, between each awful pause,
From the high vault an answer draws,
In varied tone prolong'd and high,
That mocks the organ's melody.

Nor doth its entrance front in vain
To old Iona's holy fane,
That nature's voice might seem to say,
'Well hast thou done, frail child of clay!
Thy humble powers that stately shrine
Task'd high and hard—but witness mine!'

XI.

Merrily, merrily, goes the bark,
Before the gale she bounds;
So darts the dolphin from the shark,
Or the deer before the hounds.
They left Loch-Tua on their lee,
And they waken'd the men of the wild Tیره,
And the chief of the sandy Coll;
They paused not at Columba's isle,
Though peal'd the bells from the holy pile
With long and measured toll;
No time for matin or for mass,
And the sounds of the holy summons pass
Away in the billows' roll.
Lochbuie's fierce and warlike Lord
Their signal saw, and grasp'd his sword,
And verdant Ilay call'd her host,
And the clans of Jura's rugged coast
Lord Ronald's call obey,
And Scarba's isles, whose tortured shore
Still rings to Corrievreken's roar,
And lonely Colonsay;
—Scenes sung by him who sings no more!
His bright and brief career is o'er,
And mute his tuneful strains!
Quench'd is his lamp of varied lore,
That loved the light of song to pour;
A distant and a deadly shore
Has LEYDEN's cold remains!

XII.

Ever the breeze blows merrily,
But the galley ploughs no more the sea.
Lest, rounding wild Cantire, they meet
The southern foemen's watchful fleet,
They held unwonted way;—
Up Tarbat's western lake they bore,
Then dragg'd their bark the isthmus o'er,
As far as Kilmaconnel's shore,
Upon the eastern bay.
It was a wondrous sight to see
Topmast and pennon glitter free,
High raised above the greenwood tree,
As on dry land the galley moves,
By cliff and copse and alder groves.
Deep import from that selcouth sign,
Did many a mountain Seer divine,
For ancient legends told the Gael,
That when a royal bark should sail
O'er Kilmaconnel moss,
Old Albyn should in fight prevail,
And every foe should faint and quail
Before her silver Cross.

XIII.

Now launch'd once more, the inland sea
They furrow with fair augury,
And steer for Arran's isle;
The sun, ere yet he sunk behind
Ben-ghoil, 'the Mountain of the Wind,'
Gave his grim peaks a greeting kind,
And bade Loch-Ranza smile.
Thither their destined course they drew;
It seem'd the isle her monarch knew,
So brilliant was the landward view,
The ocean so serene,
Each puny wave in diamonds roll'd
O'er the calm deep, where hues of gold
With azure strove and green.

VOL. III.—NO. IV.

The hill, the vale, the tree, the tower,
Glow'd with the tints of evening's hour,
The beach was silver sheen,
The wind breathed soft as lover's sigh,
And, oft renew'd, seem'd oft to die,
With breathless pause between.
O who, with speech of war and woes,
Would wish to break the soft repose
Of such enchanting scene!

The setting forth of the Bruce and his followers for the attack of Carrick Castle, and the appearance of the supernatural beacon, are related with extraordinary vividness and effect.

XII.

"Now on the darkening main afloat,
Ready and mann'd rocks every boat;
Beneath their oars the ocean's might
Was dash'd to sparks of glimmering light.
Faint and more faint, as off they bore,
Their armour glanced against the shore,
And, mingled with the dashing tide,
Their murmuring voices distant died.—
'God speed them!' said the Priest, as dark
On distant billows glides each bark;
'O Heaven! when swords for freedom shine,
And monarch's right, the cause is thine!
Edge doubly every patriot blow!
Beat down the banners of the foe!
And be it to the nations known,
That Victory is from God alone!'

As up the hill his path he drew,
He turn'd, his blessings to renew,
Oft turn'd till on the darken'd coast
All traces of their course were lost;
Then slowly bent to Brodick tower,
To shelter for the evening hour.

XIII.

In night the fairy prospects sink,
Where Cumray's isles with verdant link
Close the fair entrance of the Clyde;
The woods of Bute no more descried
Are gone—and on the placid sea
The rowers plied their task with glee,
While hands that knightly lances bore
Impatient aid the labouring oar.
The half-faced moon shone dim and pale,
And glanced against the whiten'd sail;
But on that ruddy beacon-light
Each steersman kept the helm aright,
And oft, for such the King's command,
That all at once might reach the strand,
From boat to boat loud shout and hail
Warn'd them to crowd or slacken sail.
South and by west the armada bore,
And near at length the Carrick shore.
As less and less the distance grows,
High and more high the beacon rose;
The light, that seem'd a twinkling star,
Now blazed portentous, fierce, and far.
Dark-red the heaven above it glow'd,
Dark red the sea beneath it flow'd,
Red rose the rocks on ocean's brim,
In blood-red light her islets swim;
Wild scream the dazzled sea-fowl gave,
Dropp'd from their crags on plashing wave,
The deer to distant covert drew,
The black-cock deem'd it day, and crew
Like some tall castle given to flame,
O'er half the land the lustre came.

Now, good my Liege, and brother sage,
What think ye of mine elfin page?
'Row on!' the noble King replied,
'We'll learn the truth whate'er betide;
Yet sure the beadsman and the child
Could ne'er have waked that beacon wild!'

XIV.

With that the boats approach'd the land,
But Edward's grounded on the sand;
The eager knight leap'd in the sea
Waist-deep, and first on shore was he,
Though every barge's hardy band
Contended which should gain the land,
When that strange light, which, seen afar,
Seem'd steady as the polar star,
Now, like a prophet's fiery chair,
Seem'd travelling the realms of air.
Wide o'er the sky the splendour glows,
As that portentous meteor rose;
Helm, axe, and falchion glitter'd bright,
And in the red and dusky light
His comrade's face each warrior saw,
Nor marvel'd it was pale with awe.
Then high in air the beams were lost,
And darkness sunk upon the coast.—
Ronald to Heaven a prayer address'd,
And Douglas crossed his dauntless breast;
'Saint James protect us!' Lennox cried,
But reckless Edward spoke aside,
'Deem'st thou, Kirkpatrick, in that flame
Red Conyn's angry spirit came,
Or would thy dauntless heart endure
Once more to make assurance sure?'

The attack and capture of the fortress is also admirable for the energy and briefness with which it is described. It will be remembered that Douglas was to give the signal upon his reaching the copse-covered path, between the party that attended the execution of the dumb page, and the castle.

'What glances o'er the green-wood shade?—
The spear that marks the ambuscade!
'Now, noble chief! I leave thee loose;
Upon them, Ronald!' said the Bruce.

XXIX.

'The Bruce, the Bruce!' to well-known cry
His native rocks and woods reply.
'The Bruce, the Bruce!' in that dread word
The knell of hundred deaths was heard.
The astonish'd Southern gazed at first,
Where the wild tempest was to burst,
That waked in that presaging name.
Before, behind, around it came!
Half-arm'd, surprised, on every side
Hemm'd in, hew'd down, they bled and died.
Deep in the ring the Bruce engaged,
And fierce Clan-Colla's broadsword raged!
Full soon the few who fought were sped,
Nor better was their lot who fled,
And met, 'mid terror's wild career,
The Douglas's redoubted spear!
Two hundred yeomen on that morn
The castle left, and none return."

The forcing of the drawbridge and gates has been assigned to Edward, and

the prince, with that customary recklessness which

— "oft made good,
Even by its daring, venture rude,
Where prudence might have fail'd,"

has march'd to the assault before the appointed signal;

"Upon the bridge his strength he threw,
And struck the iron chain in two
By which its planks arose;
The warder next his axe's edge
Struck down upon the threshold ledge,
'Twixt door and post a ghastly wedge!
The gate they may not close.
Well fought the Southern in the fray,
Clifford and Lorn fought well that day,
But stubborn Edward forced his way
Against an hundred foes.
Loud came the cry, 'The Bruce, the Bruce!'
No hope or in defence or truce,
Fresh combatants pour in;
Mad with success, and drunk with gore,
They drive the struggling foe before,
And ward on ward they win.
Unsparring was the vengeful sword,
And limbs were lopp'd and life-blood pour'd,
The cry of death and conflict roar'd,
And fearful was the din;
The startling horses plunged and flung,
Clamour'd the dogs till turrets rung,
Nor sunk the fearful cry,
Till not a foeman was there found
Alive, save those who on the ground
Groan'd in their agony!"

When the king hath "won his father's hall," himself and his friends take a short repast. The Bruce, while the wine is circling, gives the pledge, "FAIR SCOTLAND'S RIGHTS RESTORED,"

"And he whose lip shall touch the wine,
Without a vow as true as mine,
To hold both lands and life at nought,
Until her freedom shall be bought,—
Be brand of a disloyal Scot,
And lasting infamy his lot!
Sit, gentle friends! our hour of glee
Is brief, we'll spend it joyously!
Blithest of all the sun's bright beams,
When betwixt storm and storm he gleams,
Well is our country's work begun,
But more, far more, must yet be done!—
Speed messengers the country through;
Arouse old friends, and gather new;
Warn Lanark's knights to gird their mail,
Rouse the brave sons of Teviotdale,
Let Ettrick's archers sharp their darts,
The fairest forms, the truest hearts!
Call all, call all! from Reedswair path,
To the wild confines of Cape-Wrath;
Wide let the news through Scotland ring,
The Northern Eagle claps his wing!"

The dream and death of Allan struck us, both in conception and execution, as one of the sweetest passages in the poem. When his turn of watching arrives, the

poor page soon begins to feel the approach of sleep.

"Again he rous'd him—on the lake
Look'd forth, where now the twilight-flake
Of pale cold dawn began to wake.
On Coolin's cliffs the mist lay furl'd,
The morning breeze the lake had curl'd,
The short dark waves, heaved to the land.
With ceaseless plash kiss'd cliff or sand;—
It was a slumb'rous sound—he turn'd
To tales at which his youth had burn'd,
Of pilgrim's path by demon cross'd,
Of sprightly elf or yelling ghost,
Of the wild witch's baneful cot,
And mermaid's alabaster grot,
Who bathes her limbs in sunless well
Deep in Strathaird's enchanted cell.
Thither in fancy rapt he flies,
And on his sight the vaults arise;
That hut's dark walls he sees no more,
His foot is on the marble floor,
And o'er his head the dazzling spars
Gleam like a firmament of stars!
—Hark! hears he not the sea-nymph speak
Her anger in that thrilling shriek?—
No! all too late, with Allan's dream
Mingled the captive's warning scream!
As from the ground he strives to start,
A ruffian's dagger finds his heart!
Upward he casts his dizzy eyes, . . .
Murmurs his master's name, . . . and dies!"

The battle is given with Mr. Scott's usual felicity in scenes of this nature. Indeed, the animation and truly martial spirit with which the whole is narrated, bring the varying incidents of the combat full before our eyes, and cannot fail to inspire in the reader a corresponding glow. While the numerous and gay host of the enemy are preparing for the attack, the Bruce orders mass to be performed, and when the Scottish army supplicate on their knees the assistance and protection of heaven in the coming conflict, the English monarch interprets their devotional attitude into a signal of submission. When his mistake is corrected by De Argentine, he directs the archers under Gloucester to begin the fight!

XXII.

"Earl Gilbert waved his truncheon high,
Just as the Northern ranks arose,
Signal for England's archery
To halt and bend their bows.
Then stepp'd each yeoman forth a pace,
Glanced at the intervening space,
And raised his left hand high;
To the right ear the cords they bring—
—At once ten thousand bow-strings ring,
Ten thousand arrows fly!
Nor paused on the devoted Scot
The ceaseless fury of their shot;
As fiercely and as fast,
Forth whistling came the gray-goose wing,
As the wild hail-stones pelt and ring
Adown December's blast.

Nor mountain targe of tough bull-hide.
Nor lowland mail, that storm may bide;
Woe, woe to Scotland's banner'd pride,
If the fell shower may last!

Upon the right, behind the wood,
Each by his steed dismounted, stood

The Scottish chivalry;—

—With foot in stirrup, hand on mane,
Fierce Edward Bruce can scarce restrain
His own keen heart, his eager train,
Until the archers gain'd the plain;

Then, 'Mount, ye gallants free!'

He cried; and, vaulting from the ground,
His saddle every horseman found.

On high their glittering crests they toss,
As springs the wild-fire from the moss;
The shield hangs down on every breast.
Each ready lance is in the rest.

And loud shouts Edward Bruce.—

'Forth Marshal, on the peasant foe!

We'll tame the terrors of their bow,

And cut the bow-string loose!—

XXIII.

Then spurs were dash'd in chargers' flanks.
They rush'd among the archer ranks,
No spears were there the shock to let,
No stakes to turn the charge were set,
And how shall yeoman's armour slight
Stand the long lance and mace of might?
Or what may their short swords avail,
'Gainst barbed horse and shirt of mail?
Amid their ranks the chargers sprung,
High o'er their heads the weapons swung,
And shriek and groan and vengeful shout
Gave note of triumph and of rout!
Awhile, with stubborn hardihood,
Their English hearts the strife made good;
Borne down at length on every side,
Compell'd to flight they scatter wide.—
Let stags of Sherwood leap for glee,
And bound the deer of Dallow-lee!
The broken bows of Bannock's shore
Shall in the green-wood ring no more!
Round Wakefield's merry may-pole now,
The maids may twine the summer bough,
May northward look with longing glance,
For those that wont to lead the dance,
For the blithe archers look in vain!
Broken, dispersed, in flight o'erta'en,
Pierced through, trode down, by thousands slain,
They cumber Bannock's bloody plain.

XXIV.

The King with scorn beheld their flight.
'Are these,' he said, 'our yeomen wight?
Each braggart churl could boast before,
Twelve Scottish lives his baldric bore!
Fitter to plunder chase or park,
Than make a manly foe their mark.—
Forward, each gentleman and knight!
Let gentle blood show generous might,
And chivalry redeem the fight!—

To rightward of the wild affray,

The field show'd fair and level way;

But, in mid space, the Bruce's care
Had bored the ground with many a pit,
With turf and brushwood hidden yet,

That form'd a ghastly snare.

Rushing, ten thousand horsemen came,
With spears in rest, and hearts on flame,

That panted for the shock!

With blazing crests and banners spread,
And trumpet-clang and clamour dread,
The wide plain thunder'd to their tread.

As far as Stirling rock

Down! down! in headlong overthrow,
 Horseman and horse, the foremost go,
 Wild floundering on the field!
 The first are in destruction's gorge,
 Their followers wildly o'er them urge;—
 The knightly helm and shield,
 The mail, the axon, and the spear,
 Strong hand, high heart, are useless here!
 Loud from the mass confused the cry
 Of dying warriors swells on high,
 And steeds that shriek in agony!
 They came like mountain-torrent red,
 That thunders o'er its rocky bed;
 They broke like that same torrent's wave,
 When swallow'd by a darksome cave.
 Billows on billows burst and boil,
 Maintaining still the stern turmoil,
 And to their wild and tortured groan
 Each adds new terrors of his own;

XXV.

Too strong in courage and in might
 Was England yet, to yield the fight.
 Her noblest all are here;
 Names that to fear were never known,
 Bold Norfolk's Earl De Brotherton,
 And Oxford's famed De Vere.
 There Gloster plied the bloody sword,
 And Berkley, Grey, and Hereford,
 Bottetourt and Sanzavere,
 Ross, Montague, and Mauley, came,
 And Courtenay's pride, and Percy's fame—
 Names known too well in Scotland's war,
 At Falkirk, Methven, and Dunbar,
 Blazed broader yet in after years,
 At Cressy red and fell Poitiers.
 Pembroke with these, and Argentine,
 Brought up the rearward battle-line.
 With caution o'er the ground they tread,
 Slippery with blood and piled with dead,
 Till hand to hand in battle set,
 The bills with spears and axes met,
 And, closing dark on every side,
 Raged the full contest far and wide.
 Then was the strength of Douglas tried,
 Then proved was Randolph's generous pride,
 And well did Stewart's actions grace
 The sire of Scotland's royal race!
 Firmly they kept their ground;
 As firmly England onward press'd,
 And down went many a noble crest,
 And rent was many a valiant breast,
 And Slaughter revell'd round.

XXVI.

Unflinching foot 'gainst foot was set,
 Unceasing blow by blow was met;
 The groans of those who fell
 Were drown'd amid the shriller clang,
 That from the blades and harness rang,
 And in the battle-yell.
 Yet fast they fell, unheard, forgot,
 Both Southern fierce and hardy Scot;—
 And O! amid that waste of life,
 What various motives fired the strife!
 The aspiring Noble bled for fame,
 The Patriot for his country's claim;
 This Knight his youthful strength to prove,
 And that to win his lady's love;
 Some fought from ruffian thirst of blood,
 From habit some, or hardihood.
 But ruffian stern and soldier good
 The noble and the slave,
 From various cause the same wild road,
 On the same bloody morning, trode,
 To that dark inn the Grave!

XXVII.

The tug of strife to flag begins,
 Though neither loses yet nor wins,
 High rides the sun, thick rolls the dust,
 And feebler speeds the blow and thrust.
 Douglas leans on his war-sword now,
 And Randolph wipes his bloody brow,
 Nor less had toil'd each Southern knight,
 From morn till mid-day in the fight.
 Strong Egremont for air must gasp,
 Beauchamp undoes his visor-clasp,
 And Montague must quit his spear,
 And sinks thy falchion bold De Vere!
 The blows of Berkley fall less fast,
 And Gallant Pembroke's bugle blast
 Hath lost its lively tone;
 Sinks, Argentine, thy battle-word,
 And Percy's shout was fainter heard,
 'My merry-men, fight on!—'

XXVIII.

Bruce with the pilot's wary eye,
 The slack'ning of the storm could spy.
 'One effort more, and Scotland's free!
 Lord of the isles my trust in thee
 Is firm as Ailsa-rock:
 Rush on with Highland sword and targe,
 I, with my Carrick spearmen, charge;
 Now, forward to the shock!
 At once the spears were forward thrown,
 Against the sun the broad-swords shone;
 The pibroch lent its maddening tone,
 And loud King Robert's voice was known—
 'Carrick press on—they fail, they fail!
 Press on, brave sons of Innisgail,
 The foe is fainting fast!
 Each strike for parent, child and wife,
 For Scotland, liberty, and life,—
 The battle cannot last!—'

Edith, stationed on the hill with the
 camp-followers, hears the cry of the ral-
 lying host, and the notes of their trum-
 pets, "twixt triumph and lament;" and
 fearful of the event, passionately calls upon
 them to join their countrymen in the field.

"That rallying force, combined anew,
 Appear'd, in her distracted view,
 To hem the isles-men round;
 'O God! the combat they renew,
 And is no rescue found!
 And ye that look thus tamely on,
 And see your native land o'erthrown,
 O! are your hearts of flesh or stone?—"

XXX.

The multitude that watch'd afar,
 Rejected from the ranks of war,
 Had not unmoved beheld the fight,
 When strove the Bruce for Scotland's right;
 Each heart had caught the patriot spark,
 Old man and stripling, priest and clerk,
 Bondsman and serf; even female hand
 Stretch'd to the hatchet or the brand;
 But, when mute Amadine they heard,
 Give to their zeal his signal-word,
 A frenzy fired the throng.—
 'Portents and miracles impeach
 Our sloth—the dumb our duties teach—
 And he that gives the mute his speech,
 Can bid the weak be strong.
 To us, as to our lords, are given
 A native earth, a promised heaven;
 To us, as to our lords, belongs
 The vengeance for our nation's wrongs;

The choice, 'twixt death or freedom, warms
Our breasts as theirs—To arms, to arms!
To arms they flew,—axe, club, or spear,—
And mimic ensigns high they rear,
And, like a banner'd host afar,
Bear down on England's wearied war."

To each canto are prefixed introductory verses. Of these the best are those opening the first, fourth, and fifth cantos. Those of the second are passable; of the third we may say the same—while those of the sixth are decidedly very inferior. We quote those of the fourth canto—a lofty tribute of admiration to the stupendous and solitary scenery of Scotland.

"Stranger! if e'er thine ardent step hath traced
The northern realms of ancient Caledon,
Where the proud Queen of Wilderness hath placed,
By lake and cataract, her lonely throne;
Sublime but sad delight thy soul hath known,
Gazing on pathless glen and mountain high,
Listing where from the cliffs the torrents thrown
Mingle their echoes with the eagle's cry,
And with the sounding lake, and with the moaning sky.

Yes! 'twas sublime, but sad.—The loneliness
Loaded thy heart, the desert tired thine eye;
And strange and awful fears began to press
Thy bosom with a stern solemnity.
Then hast thou wish'd some woodman's cottage nigh,
Something that show'd of life, though low and mean,
Glad sight, its curling wreath of smoke to spy,
Glad sound, its cock's blithe carol would have been,
Or children whooping wild beneath the willows green.

Such are the scenes where savage grandeur wakes
An awful thrill that softens into sighs;
Such feelings rouse them by dim Rannoch's lakes,
In dark Glencoe such gloomy raptures rise:
Or farther, where, beneath the northern skies,
Chides wild Loch-Eribol his caverns hoar—
But, be the minstrel judge, they yield the prize
Of desert dignity to that dread shore,
That sees grim Coolin rise, and hears Corisken roar."

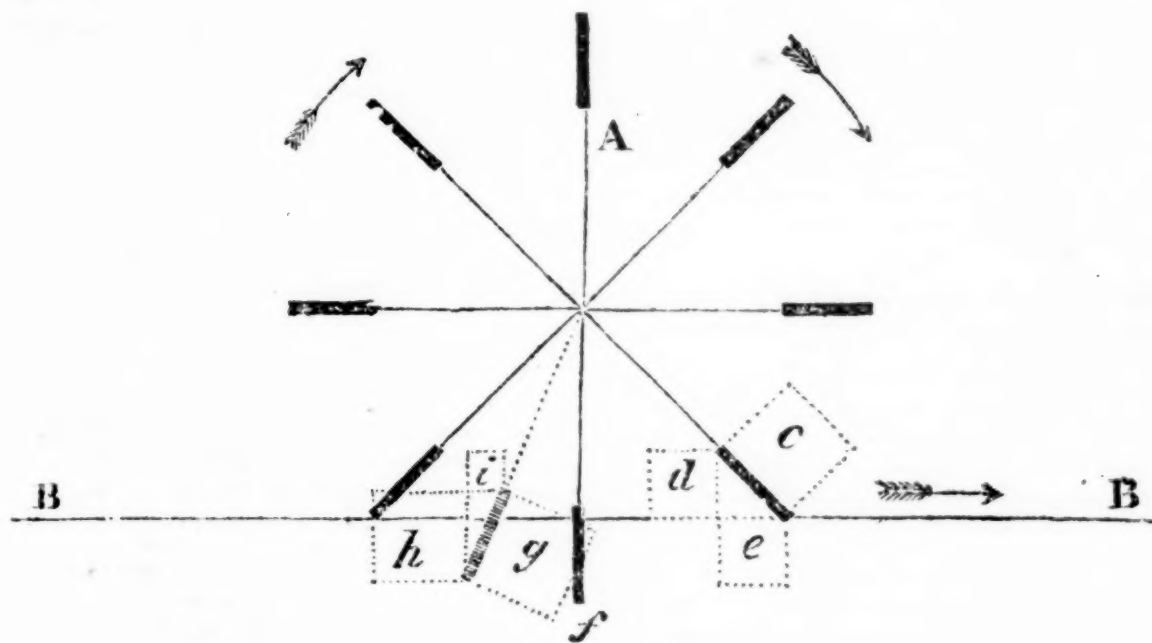
G.

ART. 6. NEW INVENTION.

Propulsion of Navigable Bodies, and Improvement in the Construction of Mills.

HAVING, in a previous number of this work (for June), published some strictures on the propulsion of na-

vigable bodies, introduced by an exposition of the causes of the great losses of power attending the operation of common water-wheels, I embrace the present opportunity to offer the following diagram, in further elucidation of my position.



A. A common water-wheel revolving in the direction of the inclined arrows, the boat advancing in the direction of the horizontal arrow.
B. B. Surface of the water.

c. Square representing the whole force of the impinging paddle.
d. e. Squares together equal to c, and representing the proportions in which the whole force is divided between hori-

zontal propulsion, and perpendicular exertion.

- f. When the paddle has arrived at this position, its whole force is propulsive.
- g. This square represents the whole force of the paddle, divided horizontally and perpendicularly in the proportions of *h* and *i*, squares together equal to *g*; and so on till the paddle emerges.

To this I may add, that the injurious *tendency* of the present system of propulsion, is, *in effect*, still further increased beyond the proportion already explained. Suppose a vessel of a certain capacity, having an engine capable of giving it a motion of eight miles per hour, *if none of its power were wasted*. But as three-fourths of the power *are wasted*, an engine of four times the power, and more than four times the weight, must immediately be substituted—four times the quantity, and weight, of fuel will also be required. The boat must now be enlarged and strengthened to carry the additional burthen, and to sustain the prodigious action of a four-fold engine. Again the engine and fuel must be increased to propel the enlarged boat; and the boat further enlarged and made stronger still, to carry the doubly enlarged engine: proceeding thus, it is true, the engine's power gains at each remove on the boat's size, but does not overtake it until both are *inordinately magnified*. The engine being *then*, probably, of not less than *six times* the power of that *originally* provided—and the boat enlarged *one half*. Yet, notwithstanding these extravagant incumbrances, steam-boats *must be profitable*, or they would not be continued. But since these mechanical imperfections are inseparable from the present system, they prove indisputably the existence of some egregious error in the application of the power of the *primum mobile*.

If we pause for a moment to inquire into the laws of statics, by which floating bodies are sustained quiescently in water, we shall find:—

1st. The water exerts a perpendicular pressure upward beneath the whole area of the vessel, having a constant tendency to raise it—a tendency as constantly resisted by the gravity (or weight) of the vessel, and therefore it does not rise.

2d. The water exerts a *lateral* pressure in *every direction*, against the sides of the vessel towards the centre, and has a tendency to move it in *every direction*—but as a body can only move, or be moved, in one direction, at one time, the opposite pressures, or tendencies to action, of the water, counteract and destroy each other;

therefore, no motion takes place in any direction.

If external force be applied to the vessel by sails, water-wheels, towing, &c. in any *one* direction, it has the immediate effect of relieving the water pressing in the same direction, from the resistance of the water pressing in an opposite direction, and that pressure, thus released, becomes *active*, and the vessel moves; hence it is that the shape of a ship's after-part is considered all-important by nautical men, in order that the pressure of the water may be received in the most advantageous manner. Now it has already been shown that external force cannot be applied by the operation of water-wheels, as heretofore, without an immense sacrifice of power. But it must be obvious that if power can be employed to remove the pressure of the water in any one direction, an equal pressure in a contrary direction will be released, and becoming active, will move the vessel with the same advantage as external power applied in the most favourable manner. Fortunately for mankind, nature has ordained that power can very easily be so applied, without any other waste than that of the friction of mechanism employed in the operation. How did the lucid intellect of WATT improve the *mechanical effect* of steam? *not by adding* to its power, but by *removing* a pre-existing natural *resistance*, obstructing its natural action.

The following simple experiment, within the compass of every one, exemplifies the *principle* of the discovery elucidated in my last communication, in a pleasing and conclusive manner:—Provide a small model of a boat with a projecting tube inserted at the head, beneath the water line, with a valve at its inward extremity—keep the valve closed by a thread applied to a small lever, so adjusted as to open the valve when the thread is severed—put the boat in water—divide the thread with a lighted taper, to avoid the possibility of accidental impulse from contact—the valve now opens, and the *boat moves forward spontaneously its whole length*, with accelerated velocity, *thrusting the tube before it through the water*. Why, if my principle be false, does not the *water flow backward through the tube*, and the *boat remain stationary*?—The boat is at length filled, and the water received by the tube being met by the internal opposite end of the boat, motion is impeded, and ceases of course—but were it convenient (it is not in this model) to bail the admitted water, the boat's

progress would be continued, *ad infinitum*, on the principle causing its commencement. A beautiful method of showing the operation of the *raceway*, is exhibited

in the following figures; making a most fascinating experiment, and of a nature so simple as to be within the reach of any common tin-plate worker:

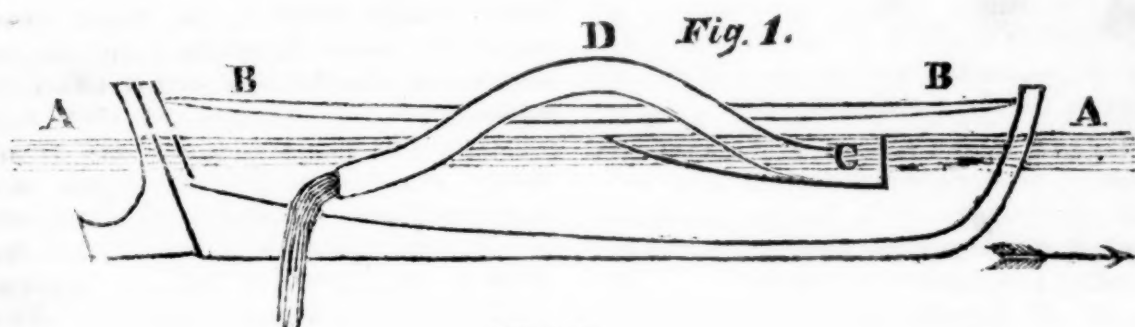


Fig. 2

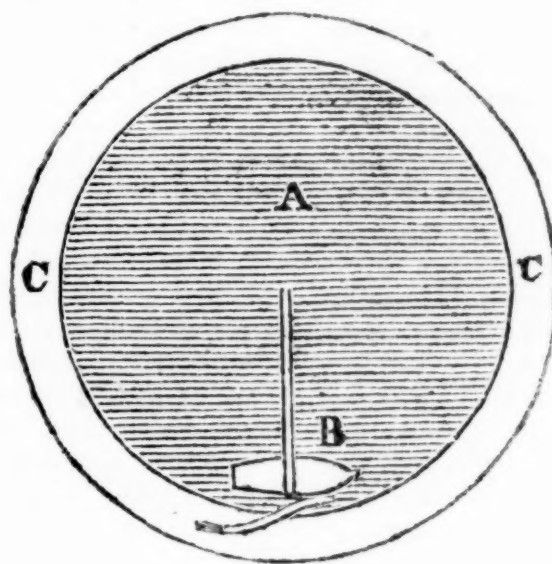


FIG. 1.

- A. A. Surface of the water contained in a circular cistern or pan.
- B. B. A model of a boat floating in the water at the circumference of the cistern.
- C. The raceway attached to the boat.
- D. A siphon, one extremity terminating in the raceway; the other hanging over the cistern, the lower extremities of both legs being placed *exactly* on a level.

FIG. 2.

- A. Bird's-eye view of the circular cistern, full of water.
- B. The boat, raceway, and siphon, connected to a pivot in the centre of the cistern, by an arm, merely to preserve the regular curvilinear direction when in motion.
- C. A circular channel on the outside of the cistern, into which the outer leg of the siphon depends, and discharges water when the apparatus is in action.

Let us now imagine the siphon exhausted of air in the common manner, it of course becomes full of water.—This

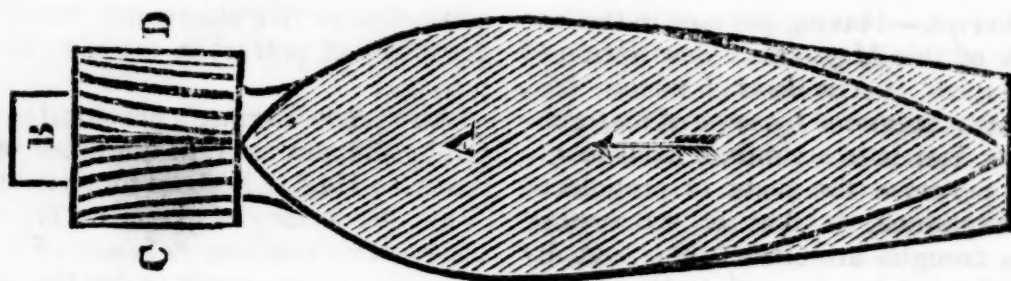
water discharges itself at the outer leg, and the boat instantly advances with rapidity, in the direction of the arrow, and continues in motion, *ad infinitum*, if the emitted water be returned at intervals to the cistern. Now both legs of the siphon being of *equal lengths and inclinations*, it is manifest that the pressure of the water contained within it, cannot be the cause of motion, because that pressure operates equally in two opposing directions. The fact really is that the siphon by merely *allowing* the water opposed to the forward end of the raceway *to flow off* by its own gravity, the pressure of the external water behind the raceway becomes *unbalanced*, and therefore *active*, and imparts motion to the boat, &c. &c. Thus the siphon, in this experiment, effectively performs the office of the water-wheel, as explained in my late disquisition, but cannot do more.

This, my newly-discovered use of the siphon, admits of very *various application*. Boats may be navigated on canals through its agency, without mechanical or animal power, simply by means of hydrostatic pressure, provided a gutter be

made to carry off the water discharged. If a proper figure be given to the siphon, and an increased length, and inclined spouts, added to the outer leg, the raceway may be omitted. Mills may be constructed with singular economy and advantage on this plan, particularly when the level of the adjacent country does not afford a great head of water;—the siphon will then communicate motion to machinery from the centre of rotation, or at the circumference, as may be required. And, finally, the movement being nearly devoid of friction, may be variously employed to actuate petty machinery, on very advantageous principles. These latter applications of the siphon, operate on the principle of *Barker's Mill*, but entirely without the great loss of power proceeding from the vis-inertiæ of the

water, as explained by Dr. Olinthus Gregory, in his mechanical treatise.

But to return to the subject of the *raceway*, as applied to mechanical navigation, I find the principle may be brought into action, beneficially, by placing it at the head of a vessel, with two long cylindrical water-wheels, one on each side (as shown in the diagram) having their shafts parallel with the line of the boat's motion. The float-boards *when in the water* being placed obliquely with a gentle spiral backward inclination. When thus circumstanced, the raceway is baled *laterally*, and by a comparative slow mechanical action, the wheels revolving with about one-third of the boat's velocity;—a fact attended with great practical advantage.



- A. The boat advancing in the direction of the arrow.
- B. The forward end of the raceway.
- C. D. The water-wheels, with inclined float boards, baling the raceway on each side.

These longitudinal water-wheels, may also be applied in raceways at the sides or sterns of vessels with equal advantage.

It is a fact somewhat remarkable, that the idea of this *negative* application of power seems never to have suggested itself either to the ancients or moderns. The Phœnicians—the Egyptians—the Tyrians—the Greeks—the Carthaginians—and the Romans, had their single galleys, their biremes, triremes, &c. all moving by operation against the inertia of the water. The Italian gondolas are still navigated on a similar principle. The schemes of the French engineers are, without exception, modifications of the same idea. The British experimentalists have one and all followed the individual system. The Americans, in the persons of Fitch, Rumsay, Stevens, Allison, and Livingston, have pursued the same plan under various devices: and, lastly, Fulton, following the beaten track, produced results superior to all, just inasmuch as he applied a more powerful *primum mobile*.

Abandoning the law of statics, by which fluids rise spontaneously to their original level, the ancients erected those mighty structures called aqueducts;—the enlightened moderns effect their purposes by the more convenient ascent of water through tubes. In mechanical navigation the *ancient* system is still pursued; but, why should not the *natural law*, acting with perfection in the first instance, be appealed to with corresponding efficacy in the second?

The grand object of propulsion being now achieved on equal terms, it is scarcely possible to contemplate the advantages resulting in a national point of view, (and I might even go further) without risking the charge of immoderate vanity from those who have not devoted their attention to the subject; but supported as I am, by the fundamental laws of nature, tested by repeated experiments, will I venture to call public attention to a matter fraught with consequences of high importance.

Let every one seriously reflect, that, if steam-vessels, supported as they now are, at an enormous cost, are deemed (and deservedly so) one of the proudest boasts of America, and one of her most distinguished blessings, where, in the long and brilliant perspective of succeeding ages, shall we seek a termination of the benefit to result from a discovery mul-

tipling, in six-fold ratio, the present effect of power? rendering a few horses efficient as the most powerful steam engine; saving its cost, its current expenses, and its other inconveniences; added to those of the massy floating fabric indispensable to support the ponderous action of the mechanical mammoth? Under these circumstances, I say, what daring imagination shall prescribe limits to mechanical navigation?—The frail canoe, and the majestic ship, are alike susceptible of its advantages—and a period may ere long arrive, when mankind, rousing from the lethargic influence of antiquated habit, shall with one voice exclaim, the land is our resting place, but *the water is our road!*

C. A. BUSBY,

No. 2. Law Buildings.

July 10th, 1818.

Postscript.—Having perused in the last number of this Magazine a description of Mr. Staples' "AIR BOAT," which has, I find, been supposed by some of that gentleman's friends to assimilate itself to my plan, I perceive the mode of propulsion there explained, is that of exhausting certain troughs attached to the boat, by means of what are termed "*Plungers*," working on the principle of a pump, assisted by appropriate valves—the whole being actuated by an *Air Engine*, as a *primum mobile*.

Referring to my *Catalogue of Schemes*, it appears that the exact idea originated with the great Franklin, being suggested by the learned doctor as a *problematical* improvement on the plan of M. Bernouilli. (Vide, Transactions of the Philosophical Society of Philadelphia, Dec. 2d, 1785.) The same method has also been tried frequently in England, and finally a patent was obtained by Mr. James Linaker, in London, July 14, 1808, for various modifications of the same principle. (Vide, Repertory of Arts, second series, vol. 16.) These plans have not been

pursued further, because the pressure of the atmosphere, upon which Mr. Staples places so much reliance, was found to act, unavoidably, in the worst possible direction, having an effectual tendency to force the water backward upon the valves, and thus impede the boat's progress.

The *suggested improvements* to the trough of Mr. Staples' inclined wheel, would seem to trench upon the principles developed in my Essay—but the *application* is so imperfect, that I am convinced Mr. S. cannot have made the experiment. I shall, therefore, never interfere with its adoption. If, in addition to the closed valve described behind the inclined wheel, Mr. S. had added *lateral openings* in the trough, also behind the wheel, the effect would have been improved; for the water would then have found vent on each side, instead of being compelled to rise above the trough, (at a great loss of power) in order to obtain a passage.

An "*Air Engine*," previously suggested by the aeronaut, Montgolfier, was patented in England, about four years since. (Vide, Repertory of Arts, 1815.)—Many expensive experiments (some of which I witnessed) were made under the superintendence of the first mathematicians and mechanics—but finally the idea was abandoned. The ingenious Mr. Murray, Engineer, of Leeds, (England) has also been many years engaged in a similar pursuit.

The statement of these facts, since Mr. Staples would seem to be unacquainted with them, is not intended to detract from the ingenuity, or *personal* originality, of his ideas; particularly as I am informed the subject of which he has treated, is foreign to his ordinary vocations. I cannot, therefore, omit to express my regret that the zeal of his friends should have made it necessary for me to explain matters of record, perhaps not generally known.

C. A. B.

ART. 7. ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

To the Editors of the *American Monthly Magazine*.

GENTLEMEN,

I OFFER for insertion, in your valuable Magazine, several short papers read at the Lyceum, during the last sitting, to wit:

1. Dr. Clark's communication on the vivacious or perennial flax, with my own notes.

2. Capt. H. Austin's application of the

fleece of the Caramanian Goats to the manufacture of hats.

3. Description of a most curious fossil fish, from Westmoreland, Oneida county, N. Y.

As I think them all interesting to science, art, and the country, I place them at your disposal, and assure you at the same time of my highest esteem and regard.

SAM. L. MITCHILL.

New-York, July 14, 1818.

Perennial Flax, described and recommended in a Letter from Dr. Abraham Clark, of Newark, to Samuel L. Mitchill. Read before the Lyceum of Natural History, July 13, 1818.

DEAR SIR,

I offer for your acceptance a specimen of the perennial flax, and a few of my own observations upon its growth, qualities, &c. Perhaps by allowing it to lie on your table, it may attract the attention of others, and elicit something worthy the notice of the agriculturist. Not having the annual flax at hand, I am unable to point out all the differences between them; the principal, which recollection furnishes, are the larger size of the blossom, less size and darker colour of the seed of the perennial.

With this you will find a small parcel containing flax and tow of this species, with some of the common for comparison, the person who prepared it, says it is equal to hemp in strength.

This specimen is a second years growth, in its more perfect state, 60 stalks are produced from one root. I had a solitary plant in my garden, nine years old, destroyed by accident, without previously showing any indication of decay. To me it has long been interesting; from a belief in its productiveness, strength and utility, at least in the manufacture of cordage. I know not if it has obtained any notice by the agriculturist; the only article I have seen on the subject, was published in the Georgetown Federal Republican, about midsummer, 1815, under the title of *Siberian flax*. I believe it has been observed native in the Missouri country. It is mown about the season of pulling the annual; product equal in quantity and suitable for all the uses, excepting the finer textures, and this too, perhaps, by cutting it earlier. In sowing, I presume, a tenth part of the usual quantity of seed would be sufficient.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

ABRM. CLARK.

Newark, July 6, 1818.

NOTE BY DR. MITCHILL.

Siberian Flax.—*Linum perenne*.

Linum calycibus capsulisque obtusis, foliis alternis lanceolatis, caule prostrato.

This flax differs from the *L. usitatissimum*, or common flax, by a stem twice as high as the common known species, or even more than twice as high, by its larger flowers with very entire petals, and by its vivacious root.

Its stems are from 2 1-2 to 3 feet high, straight, cylindrical, smooth, green, leaved, branching at their upper part into a corymbus. Its leaves are lanceolated, or linear-lanceolated, pointed, green, sparse and numerous. The blossoms are very large, blue, peduncled, and situated on the branches, some laterally and others almost to the top. The calyxes are short, composed of five scales or leaflets, of which the two exterior ones are oval, inclined to a point, and the three others, the inferior ones, are obtuse, almost round, scarious upon the edges.

This plant grows naturally in Siberia, and perhaps in other parts of Europe. It has been cultivated in the Parisian garden. A filament is derived from it, capable of being manufactured into thread and cloth, after the manner of common flax; but the fabrics are neither so fine nor beautiful. The greater part of botanists, have mistakenly quoted the *Linum alpinum* as a synonyme.

Parsh mentions, (1 Flora, &c. p. 210,) a perennial *Linum*, under the name of *L. Lewisii*, as found in the valleys of the rocky mountains, and on the banks of the Missouri. It bears, he observes, large blue flowers,—is a very good perennial, and might probably be worthy of cultivation.

The specific character he gives is, that the leaflets of the calyx are ovato-acuminate; petals cuneate rounded at the points; leaves sparse, lanceolato-linear mucronate; high numerous stems.

—
On the Goats of Caramania. Read at the Sitting of July 13th, 1818.

To the Lyceum of Natural History, assembled in the New-York Institution.

GENTLEMEN,

I offer for your examination a hat, made of the fur of the goats brought from Bosrah on the Euphrates, by our enterprising fellow citizen, Henry Austin, Esq. in 1816.

It was manufactured by Messrs. Kimberly and Moody of New-Haven; and is light, easy, and comfortable to the head. You will find the hat soft, shining and silky. Specimens of the fabric are in the possession of a few gentlemen in this city. The generosity of the proprietor was limited by the moderate quantity of the material which his very small flock of the creatures has, as yet, afforded.

Be pleased to accept my gratulation, to you, and particularly to rural economists, on the acquisition of this valuable animal. Every friend to the prosperity of the coun-

try, will rejoice to hear that the climate favours their health and that they increase and multiply.

Naturalists appear to be uncertain whether this quadruped is a sheep or a goat. Sir Thomas Pennant describes the Caramanian beast affording the fine fleece as a sheep; and observes that the wool is reserved entirely for the priests and their order. It is stated to be more excellent than that of Cashmere or of Bucharina. The coat of the broad-tailed sheep of Thibet is not superior.

The ancient Caramania, you recollect, is the modern Kerman, a region situated northeast of the Persian gulf, and reaching from Gombroon toward Schiraz and Ispahan. I hope this importation may lead to a profitable manufacture; and who indeed can now doubt it?

S. L. MITCHILL, *President.*

An Account of the Impression of Fish in the Rock of Oneida County, New-York. By Samuel L. Mitchill. Read before the Lyceum of Natural History, July 13, 1818.

Among other considerations leading to a belief that the ancient dam of the Mohawk river, at the little Falls, formerly raised the water high enough to overflow all the country where Rome, Utica, New-Hartford, Vernon, and Oneida now stand, is that of the numerous organic remains discovered on the dry grounds of that elevated region at this day.

The foundation of primitive rock, underlying the whole superstratum, as far as explored, may be judged of, from the silicious hornblend of the Falls, and of the granular quartz at Utica. Upon this, the secondary layers of limestone, iron ore, and argillaceous shist repose.

The latter of these often exhibits, when fractured, the forms of beings that once possessed life. One of the most remarkable of them, is the *impression of a fish*, resting in a mass of clay slate, from the town of Westmoreland, a few miles north of Hamilton College. It was brought by our worthy colleague, Mr. Clarkson. It is tolerably distinct, except a part of the tail, which is wanting. The length of the figure which remains, is nearly four inches, and the greatest breadth rather more than an inch and a half. The head and shoulders are very stout, but taper away rapidly towards the tail. It evidently belongs to the *silure* or *cat-fish* family. Modern ichthyologists have made a number of new sections out of this large genus. La Cépède distinguishes by the name of *Malapterures*, the individuals who differ from the true silures, by the

absence of a rayed dorsal fin, and the want of spines to the pectoral fins.

There is but a single species known, and that is the famous silure of the Nile, and of the Senegal, which possesses electrical properties, like the torpedo and the gymnatus.

The appearance of this impression warrants the conclusion, that the skin was destitute of scales, and that the pectoral fins had either no rays or soft ones. The figure was made by the back of the fish, for the depressions in the stone corresponding to the prominencies of the eyes, and elevations in the stone, corresponding to the sinkings near the shoulders, are very plain.

But, although the fossil fish of Westmoreland agrees with the electrical silure in so many particulars, it has two essential marks of difference. The Westmoreland fish appears to have had eight beards or cirrhi to his chin, while the other had but six; and while the living African fish has a smooth and even skin, the New-York fossil one is separated into plates, like those of an insect or crustaceous animal, reaching from side to side, quite across the back. Eleven entire plates, and part of the twelfth, can be counted. They are not so broad near the head and thorax as they are on approaching the tail, for between the pectoral fins they fall short of a quarter of an inch, while on approaching the caudal fin, they gradually enlarge until they exceed that measure.

By conjecture, the lost part of the tail did not amount to more than two inches and a half. The counter part of the specimen, on which the belly of the fish was impressed, does not seem to have been preserved.

It is not known whether there was an adipose fin on the tail, or not: I mean that fin which is usually denominated the second dorsal. There is no trace of it in the stone. Yet, there is so much of the tail left, that I doubt whether the place of its insertion, (if there was an adipose fin,) has been broken away; should that have been the fact, the want of this appendage, will form another point of discrimination between the fossil fish of Westmoreland and the electrical silure.

In the present state of our knowledge, it would be presumptuous to affirm that this belonged to any species of fish now known to be alive. And until further inquiry shall show that individuals of this sort yet inhabit the waters, the species under consideration must be ranked with those numerous tribes which their creator has permitted to become extinct.

To the Editors of the American Monthly Magazine.

I noticed in your number of May, an article respecting the salivation of horses and neat-cattle, and believing the cause there assigned not to be, if correct, the only one, I have thought proper to express to you a few observations which I have made on the subject. The disagreeable salivation to which horses are subject in this country, usually commences about the close of July or the beginning of August, and continues six or eight weeks: it is within this period that the *Lobelia Inflata* flourishes; this plant is peculiarly acrid and directly stimulating to the salivary glands of horses. It is to this plant that we must attribute the evil, for except in those pastures where it may be found, horses are not subject to this complaint. Any person may discover its effects by feeding it to horses; a single plant will generally excite salivation for several hours. It is much to be regretted that a plant which holds so high a rank in the *Materia Medica*, as does the *Lobelia*, should prove so great an evil to the noblest of brute animals, and could any means be devised to prevent its farther spread, or ameliorate its baneful effects, it would be a circumstance truly fortunate. S. W. G.

So long ago as the year 1814, the following queries were prepared by the late John H. Eddy, of this city. He had them printed in the form of a circular, and a number of copies were sent to various gentlemen in different parts of the country to which they relate. Few communications, however, were received in reply; and the multiplied avocations of Mr. Eddy compelled him to postpone the prosecution of his inquiries to a period of greater leisure. But an untimely death, arresting him in the midst of his labours, has torn him from science and his country, and left the task to other hands. With the view of reviving inquiry upon this subject, we publish the circular drawn up by Mr. Eddy, and solicit the attention of the scientific to the topics therein suggested. Any communications, addressed to the Editors, will be gladly received, and immediately placed in the possession of one who will turn them to good account.

New-York, March 14, 1814.

THE unexampled progress of cultivation and improvement in that part of the state of New-York, lying west of the meridian of the village of Utica, and the

surprising increase of its population and produce, present a subject of inquiry highly interesting, not only as affording a basis for a correct calculation of the future advance of our interior settlements to the west, where land and the titles to it are good, and thus affording a glimpse of the scene our country is one day, we may hope, destined to present, but it has opened to the observation of the geographer and the geologist, a number of very curious particulars in its general topography, which do not to my knowledge exist, at least in so remarkable a degree, or to so great an extent, in any other part of the United States. To collect facts relative to these, and by comparing these facts with each other, and judging by the rules of analogy drawn from similar appearances in other parts of the globe, to endeavour to discover the probable cause of the singular features I have mentioned, has induced me to take the liberty of addressing you, and to beg the favour of you to answer the queries inclosed, as far as your knowledge extends, and as much in detail as you conveniently can. But before proceeding to the queries I will add some conjectures of my own, drawn from the very limited means of information I at present possess.

It is well known that there are at the Little Falls of the Mohawk River, evident marks of the rocks having been formerly washed by the waves, or by a current of water one hundred feet above the present surface at the head of the falls. Now it appears, by the levels taken by the surveyors employed by the Commissioners on the Grand Canal, that the surface of the water at that place, is less than sixty feet lower than at Rome, therefore it seems to me there can be no doubt, that when the waters washed the top of the hill at the falls, the country above, along the valley of the river as far as (and much farther than) Rome, must once have been the bottom of a large lake, bounded on each side at no great distance by the uplands, and presenting in shape a long narrow arm, similar to the present lakes Cayuga and Seneca; and as there is a gradual descent in the country west of Rome, as far as Three-River Point, and the elevation from that Point to the falls of the Seneca river near Scawyace, is very inconsiderable, it seems to me equally undoubted, that the waters once reached so far, including the present Cayuga, Cross, Onondaga, and Oneida lakes, the last of which I imagine was near the centre. I suppose this great lake to have been bounded on the east by the hill at

the falls, on the south by the uplands giving rise to the head waters of the Susquehannah, on the north by the elevation of the great step from the lower falls on Genesee to Oswego Falls, and on the east by the uplands between the head waters of Mud Creek and Genesee River. Its extent up the valley of Mud Creek I don't pretend to conjecture, but suppose its length from east to west may have been about a hundred and twenty miles, and its breadth in general about twenty—all the country within these limits is a flat, surrounded by much higher land, and its soil, and likewise its small and almost imperceptible horizontal inclination is, I believe, precisely similar to the muddy bottoms of the lakes I have mentioned.—But the circumstance which seems to me most strongly to corroborate my opinion, is the known decrease in the waters of these lakes, and, of course, diminution in their extent, and the time probably is approaching when they will be entirely drained, and when the land left by the water is covered with timber, (which would soon be the case if left to nature,) it will present a country similar in appearance to that on the south side of Oneida Lake, the Cayuga marshes, &c. with creeks meandering through it like the Seneca River, Oneida, Cowaselon and Wood Creeks, &c. &c.

Please favour me with your ideas on the subject, when convenient, and send me by mail, as far as may be in your power, answers to the following queries.

JOHN H. EDDY.

No. 220 William-street.

1st. Do you know of any additional circumstances confirming the above supposition, such as traces of water at other places much above its present level, and near the supposed boundary I have sketched out?

2d. Are there any traditions among the Indians, that the country was formerly covered with water?

3d. Do you know how far the ridge, on which the *ridge road* is constructed from Lewistown to the lower falls of Genesee, extends to the eastward of Genesee River, and do you know of any other remarkable ridge or steps, similar to that which occasions the falls of Niagara and Oswego? state its height, direction, extent and composition.

4th. What is the composition of rocks in your neighbourhood and how do they lie?—in strata or otherwise? inclined or horizontal?

5th. What strata are observed in the earth in digging wells, &c.

6th. What shells are found? on the surface or what depth? are they similar to the shell-fish at present existing in the adjoining waters, or are they of unknown species? are they found in the hills, or in the valleys, or in both?

7th. Have any bones of animals been found?—of what kind?—in the hills, or in the valleys, or in both?

8th. Do you know of any petrifications in your neighbourhood?—of what kind? and do they resemble things now existing, or are they of unknown substances, are they found in the hills, or in the valleys, or in both?

9th. What trees or plants are peculiar to the respective soils of the valley of the lake I have supposed, and the uplands? (Note, the botanical names of trees and plants should be mentioned, if in your power, the English names being applied to very different species in different parts of the country.)

10th. Do you know of any means of ascertaining, or estimating, the age of the forest trees which grow on the old Indian fortifications?

11th. Do you know at what rate per annum the lakes in your neighbourhood decrease? or how much have they decreased within your knowledge, or that of creditable people?

12th. Are there any Indian hieroglyphics extant in your neighbourhood? can you send me a copy, with the meaning if it can be obtained—or drawings and plans of any Indian antiquities?

13th. I have heard that the Indians on the Mississippi, whose language is totally different, can yet understand each other very correctly by means of signs; is it so with those in your neighbourhood, and can you describe their method?

14th. What effect has the clearing and settling the country had on the climate—do the streams diminish, and in what degree?

15th. What is the present variation of the magnetic needle with you, and what has it been formerly, and at what places observed?

16th. It has been remarked in Europe that the variation was affected by an earthquake, can you recollect about the time of the late earthquakes, which extended (I believe) northeasterly from the Mississippi, about two years ago, that there was any change in the variation, and how much?

17th. Have you ever observed the Aurora Borealis, or northern lights, in your neighbourhood? when and where? and describe the phenomena—can you re-

collect any change in the variation at the time? this has been observed in Europe.

18th. What do you suppose may be the average elevation of the hills in your neighbourhood above their base?

19th. Send me a description, and (if convenient) a drawing of any singular and unaccountable natural feature in the country, or of any extraordinary phenomena.

20th. How far can the great step, which occasions the falls of Niagara, be traced into Canada, and in what direction—the same of the ledge which occasions the rapids at Black Rock.

21st. Latitudes and longitudes of any part of the country will be very important in constructing a correct map of the state, and if you can furnish me with any useful observations, they will be highly acceptable,—please to describe the observation, and the instruments used.

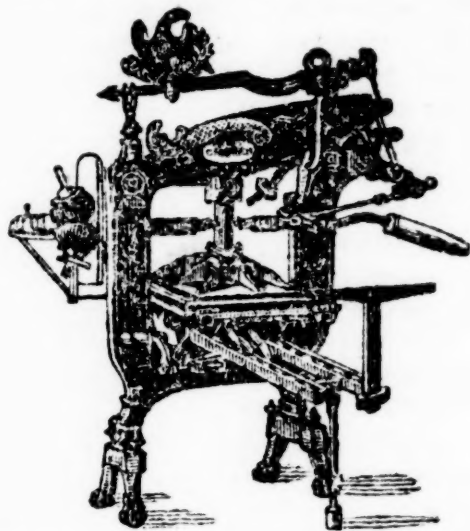
The Columbian Printing-Press.

While the United States are not inferior to any other nation in original inventions, they undoubtedly far surpass many of them in those improvements which are calculated to become truly useful. Our pin and card factories, which heretofore in Europe required the labour of so many workmen, in this country, under the guidance of genius, not only attract the man of business, but have become the resort of the inquisitive and the curious. The use of steam, as applied to vessels, and the great number of patents annually issued, speak so loudly in proof of the assertion, that it would be superfluous to enlarge on this subject. These remarks were intended to introduce an eulogium, which it seems experienced printers have seen fit to pronounce on the Columbian printing press; and it is sincerely hoped it may prove a benefit to all concerned. It may not be amiss, previous to giving this article, to take a comparative view of those now in use.

Many new models of printing presses have been produced in this country—but most of them have failed: and some may have been condemned prematurely. In England, the Stanhope press has generally been preferred, and the profession, in this country, duly appreciate its merits. In Scotland, what is called the Ruthven press is in considerable use, and some have been imported, one of which is in operation in Philadelphia. The power is given by a compound lever; and instead of acting above the platen, it is fixed beneath the bed. An objection to this is, that the platen traverses, instead of what

in other presses is called the carriage; by which means the workman has to go through a movement to which he is entirely unaccustomed; the platen having to be pulled over, and pushed from the form, with an exertion, each of which would give the Columbian press sufficient force to make the impression. The pull is made by a bar fixed where the rounce of the common press is situated, and requires power equal to the running in one on the old plan. Even if it would work with the same facility as those now in use, we think insurmountable objections would be raised to the manner of its movements. The difficulty of drilling men from old and approved customs into new, and, at most, doubtful systems, is sure to prove a present detriment, without the certainty even of a future benefit. In England there has been a steam press introduced, on which principle two newspapers in London are now printed; but from the enormous expense, and the inutility of them in America, it must be a long time before it will be advantageous or necessary to use them here.

The following cut exhibits an accurate view of Mr. Clymer's press.



Of the Columbian press, the following from the profession, will give the most correct idea:

New-York, June 17, 1813.

The undersigned, who have actually used, or witnessed the operations of the Columbian printing press, invented by Mr. Clymer of Philadelphia, most cheerfully embrace an opportunity to speak of it to their brethren in the profession, who, from their local situations, have not yet experienced the advantages resulting from it. Setting aside the benefit arising from the ease and facility of working this press, the obtaining two parallel and accurate surfaces, is particularly worthy of consideration;—for, by this, an even

impression is acquired with the assistance of but one press-blanket; the type is not subject to wear uneven, and the elasticity that two, and sometimes more press-blankets give, by indenting deeper into the hair strokes of the letter than the bolder parts (which are more capable of resisting, on account of having a broader surface) and destroying, in a short time, the beauty of the type with the common press, is, in a great degree, prevented in this. The durability of this press, from being wholly made of cast and wrought iron, we presume, cannot for a moment be doubted. We also would express a pleasing disappointment at its so seldom becoming out of order, in consequence of the strength so properly given to those parts most requiring it.

The Columbian press, for power, facility, even impression, and beauty of mechanical construction, we cannot hesitate to say, we think, excels any thing of the kind now in use, and apprehend the day is yet distant, when it will be surpassed in either of those particulars. As we feel it a duty to encourage new inventions in our own country, more especially when we can serve our brethren, and advance the welfare of the profession by it, we seriously beg leave particularly to recommend the Columbian press to consideration, and general adoption.

COLLINS & Co.
 MICH. BURNHAM & Co.
 LANG, TURNER, & Co.
 AMOS BUTLER,
 LEWIS & HALL,
 DWIGHT & WALKER,
 N. PHILLIPS,
 SAMUEL WOODWORTH,
 GEO. LONG,
 ABM. PAUL,
 JONA. SEYMOUR,
 EPHM. CONRAD,
 ORAM & MOTT,
 ALEXR. MING,
 CLAYTON & KINGSLAND,
 J. DESNOUES,
 WM. GRATTAN & Co.
 DAY & TURNER,
 BENJAMIN G. JANSEN.

In the Crawford Weekly Messenger, published at Meadville, Pennsylvania, may be found a series of valuable articles, under the signature of Agricola; to one number of that series, is appended the following note. We publish it, not only because the information it conveys is highly interesting, but also because, knowing the author, we can vouch for

its authenticity. Speaking of the indigenous productions of Western Pennsylvania, and more particularly of the unoccupied forests of Venango county, he remarks:

"A botanist, would be charmed with the bounties of Flora, in these woods, so open that they might seem pasture-fields, with here and there a tree. Of the indigenous grasses alone, there is an endless variety, and of flowering plants, which clothe the ground with rich and blooming verdure. I mention as a fact deserving notice and consideration, that these supplies nourish wild bees in incredible profusion: ten bee-trees having been found, in less than four months past, within one mile of my cabin, and not a rod of land had been cleared, within that distance, prior to twelve months last! It should be noticed that these grasses, which flourish in wild luxuriance, supplying a rich pasturage in the partial shade of open woodlands, will probably soon disappear whenever the lands are opened to the full influence of the solar rays. Will no Pennsylvanian seek to preserve them to posterity, and to enrich our agriculture by new varieties? If the seeds were preserved from the wild plant, cultivated with care, and by degrees, inured to the culture of open fields, it can hardly be doubted they would prove highly useful; and the more especially, as, having originated in it, they must be perfectly adapted to this soil and climate. Among all the grasses I ever saw, cultivated for hay or pasturage, I have seen none presenting so large a proportion of leaves, compared with the weight and bulk of the whole stock, as do some of these, one in particular. New and useful varieties of grain might very possibly be obtained also—for all our grain is of the family of grasses. There is a tall grass, four or five feet high, which grows much like our cultivated rye, except that every stock is crowned with three heads instead of one: the seed is small, and darker coloured; but who can tell what might be the effect of cultivation upon it, through several years, or vegetable generations? Of medicinal roots, and such as seem to promise new varieties of edibles, I have noticed a great many: and though my object is only to awaken public attention, I cannot omit to mention a wild potato, that grows every where around my cabin. I have found two to three, and six of them, in succession, on a lateral root, from one to six inches apart, from the size of a nutmeg to that of a common hen's egg. They are nearly round, and when cut, exude a milky juice, (a cir-

cumstance indicating the necessity of caution in tasting or eating them) but this only from the skin, while all the rest looks dry, brittle like an artichoke, and mealy. On being roasted, its taste is a compound of the common cultivated potato, and the sweet potato of the south. It is as mealy as either, and cooks with as little heat, though the skin is considerably thicker. It may be proper to observe that the land about me is wooded with chesnut, four or five kinds of oak, the red and white hickory, &c. where these vegetables are found; and that people should be cautious of eating new and untried roots, however specious their appearance."

For the American Monthly Magazine.

GENTLEMEN,

The communication from the pen of Mr. Hitchcock, relative to errors in my edition of the Nautical Almanac, deserves notice, and he is entitled to much credit for his perseverance. The ground on which I defended my editions, was the presumption, that the English edition, published at the expense of government, was correct, and I still assert no deviations were made till the Almanac for 1819 went to press, which I had recalculated, and corrected ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SEVEN ERRORS. Since this, Mr. H. has examined my edition for 1819, and discovered THIRTY-FIVE

ERRORS, all which I have corrected with the pen, in the copies on hand, and beg him to accept my thanks for the information, whatever may be his motive. Candour dictates he should say where the errors originated; and I still challenge him to point out one instance where I have deviated in publishing nine editions of the Nautical Almanac, except in the instances named by me, where errors were previously discovered. I have the English Nautical Almanac for 1820, now in the hands of two gentlemen, celebrated for their mathematical science, and when finished by them, will thank Mr. H. to amuse himself in going over the pages; after which, I will publish the work, and if a deviation is made from copy, of one figure, then I will acknowledge the confidence so liberally experienced by me, to be misplaced, and at once resign the pleasure I have twenty years experienced, of publishing nautical works (which of all others, should be entirely free from error) to other hands. Till then, Mr. H. will be pleased to continue his labours, and contribute all in his power to that perfection which guides the mariner through the pathless ocean, and relieves the solicitude of a respectable class of society, which it is a duty incumbent on every man to aid.

With great respect,

The public's obedient servant,
EDMUND M. BLUNT.

New-York, July, 1818.

ART. 3. LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE.

DOMESTIC.

THE Lyceum of Natural History, in this city, will shortly publish: *A Catalogue of the indigenous plants growing in the vicinity of the city of New-York.*

CHARLES GALLAUDET, New-York, proposes to publish *The Miscellaneous Works of Dr. Benjamin Franklin.*

SCHAEFFER & MAUND, Baltimore, propose to publish a weekly paper, entitled *Journal of the Times*; to be edited by PAUL ALLEN, Esq.

ISAAC PEIRCE, Philadelphia, has published "A brief Memoir of the Life of William Penn, compiled for the use of young persons, by Priscilla Wakefield."

TANNER, VALLANCE, KEARNEY & Co. Philadelphia, have published a two sheet Map of South-America, including the West-Indies.

EDDY & KEMMEL, Shawanee Town, Illinois, have commenced issuing a newspaper.

Mr. J. JOHNSON, Wilmington, Del. has constructed an improved *Diving Drum*, which affords the diver considerable scope and light for working under water. He enjoys a constant renewal of respirable air, and is supplied with the means of conversation with those persons who may be at the surface of the water.

Arrangements are making to establish an *Agricultural Society* in *Gennessee*, N. Y.

An *Agricultural Society* has been organized in the district of *Maine*. The Hon. Judge Wilde is President.

The *Oneida Indians*, in this state, have formed amongst themselves an AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Gen. WILSON has sent to the President of the Lyceum, a curious specimen of *Amber*, which occurred at Crosswicks, not far from Trenton, *New-Jersey*. It is figured by the mineralized wood, and filled by the marine shells of the stratum in which it was found.

Manganese has been recently discovered on Big Sandy River, in the vicinity of Greensburg, Ky. where it occurs in great abundance.

Professor MITCHILL, the Rev. F. C. SCHAEFFER, Mr. PIERCE and Dr. TOWNSEND have lately laid a geological report before the Lyceum, relative to the interesting region of *Kingsbridge*, near this city. *Kingsbridge* is memorable for its strata of primitive limestone. These, it is understood, extend in a northerly direction, to Missisqui-bay, in the extremity of Vermont, bordering on lower Canada. It is crystallized and granular. The layers are nearly vertical; and in some places, as lately observed by the above named gentlemen, *the calcarious rock contains veins of granite*, several inches wide. Quartz, amorphous and crystallized; Mica amorphous and crystallized; Rubellite; Adularia; Pyroxene; brilliant Pyrites; and Titanium, &c. impart a peculiar interest to this formation.

—
Frequent applications have been made to us for information respecting the present condition of Harvard University, and the requisites for admission into that seminary. For the sake of fully satisfying such inquiries, we publish the following circular of President Kirkland, on the present state of the University, which conveys all the information sought: it is copied from the *North-American Review*.

Circular Letter relating to Harvard University.—The following is a circular letter, containing facts in the present state of the seminary, designed to be sent to candidates for admission, their instructors and friends, to parents and guardians of students admitted, and to other persons who have an immediate interest in the University, or apply for information respecting it.

ADMISSION.—Candidates for admission are examined by the president, professors, and tutors. No one is admitted to examination, unless he have a good moral character, certified in writing by his preceptor, or some other suitable person. To be received to the freshmen class, the candidate must be thoroughly acquainted with the grammar of the Latin and Greek languages, including prosody; be able properly to construe and parse any portion of the following books, *viz.* Dalzel's *Collectanea Græca Minora*, the Greek Testament, Virgil, Sallust, and Cicero's Select Orations, and to translate English into Latin correctly;—he must be well versed in ancient and modern geography;

the fundamental rules of arithmetic, vulgar and decimal fractions, proportion, simple and compound, single and double fellowship, alligation medial and alternate, and algebra, to the end of simple equations, comprehending also the doctrine of roots and powers, arithmetical and geometrical progression.* Adam's Latin Grammar, the Gloucester Greek Grammar, and Cummings' Geography, are used in the examination for admission.

The usual time of examination for the freshmen class is the Friday next after Commencement. Those, who are necessarily prevented from offering themselves at that time, may be examined at the beginning of the first term. If any one be admitted after the first Friday of October, he will be charged for advanced standing.

Persons may be admitted to advanced standing at any part of the College course, except that no one can be admitted to the senior class after the first Wednesday of December. Every one admitted to advanced standing, in addition to the requisites for the freshmen class, must appear on examination to be well versed in the studies pursued by the class into which the candidate desires to enter. He must also pay into the college treasury a sum not under sixty dollars, nor exceeding one hundred, for each year's advancement, and a proportional sum for any part of a year. Any scholar, however, who has a regular dismissal from another college, may be admitted to the standing, for which, on examination, he is found qualified, without any pecuniary consideration.

Before the matriculation of any one accepted on examination, a bond is to be given in his behalf in the sum of four hundred dollars, for the payment of college dues, with two satisfactory sureties, one to be an inhabitant of the state.

COMMENCEMENT, when the degrees are given, is on the last Wednesday of August. There are three TERMS, during which the members of the University must be present. The first or Fall term, from the first to the second vacation; the second or Spring term, from the second

* *An Introduction to the Elements of Algebra* has been published at Cambridge, adapted to beginners, which contains those parts of algebra above enumerated, together with several chapters upon quadratic equations, intended for those who may have leisure and inclination to extend their inquiries on this subject. *An Elementary Treatise of Arithmetic*, soon to be published at the same place, comprehends those parts of arithmetic, which are required for admission, and will be used in examinations after 1818.

to the third vacation; the third or Summer term, from the third vacation to commencement.—There are three VACATIONS; the first, from commencement, four weeks and two days; the second, from the fourth Friday in December, seven weeks; the third, from the third Friday in May, two weeks;—the senior sophisters are allowed to be absent from the seventh Tuesday before commencement.

THE COURSE OF INSTRUCTION AND STUDY for under graduates, not admitted to advanced standing, comprises four years. The following are the principal authors and studies assigned to the several classes. The proportion of time devoted to each book or exercise may be nearly ascertained by the annexed table.

FRESHMEN.

1. Collectanea Græca Majora. Daltzell. 2 vols. 8vo.
 2. Titus Livius, libri v. priores. 12mo.
 3. Q. Horatius Flaccus, Editio expurgata. Cantab. 12mo.
 4. H. Grotius, De Veritate religionis Christianæ. 12mo.
 5. Excerpta Latina. Wells, Boston. 8vo.
 6. Algebra and Geometry.
 7. Ancient History and Chronology.
 8. Walker's Rhetorical Grammar.
 9. English Grammar.
 10. Adam's Roman Antiquities.
- Exercises in reading, translation, and declamation.

SOPHOMORES.

1. Continued.
 5. Continued and finished.
 11. Cicero de Oratore.
 12. Algebra,—Trigonometry and its application to heights and distances, and Navigation.
 13. Blair's Lectures on Rhetoric. 2 vols. 8vo.
 14. Modern History and Chronology.
 15. Hedge's Elements of Logic, 12mo.
 16. Lock's Essay on the Human Understanding. 2 vols. 8vo.
- Exercises in declamation and English composition once a fortnight.

JUNIOR SOPHISTERS.

1. Continued and finished.
16. Continued and finished.
17. Iliad, Homer, Mattaire's ed. four or five books.
18. Juvenal and Persius expurg; or equivalent part of Tacitus. Wells & Lilly, Boston. 3 vols. 12mo.
19. Paley's Evidences of Christianity. 8vo.
20. Willard's Hebrew Grammar. Cambridge, 1817. 8vo.

21. No. 1 and 2 of Whiting & Watson's Hebrew Bible, or Psalter.
22. Greek Testament, critically. Griesbach's ed. Cambridge, 1809.
23. Natural Philosophy and Astronomy. Enfield. 4to.
24. Stewart's Elements of the Philosophy of the Human Mind. 2 vols. 8vo.
25. Paley's Moral Philosophy. 8vo.
26. Mensuration of Superficies and Solids, and Surveying.

Public declamations, forensic disputes once a month—themes once a fortnight.

N. B. Instead of 20, 21, those above twenty-one years of age, and others, on the written request of their parent or guardian, may attend to Mathematics with the private Instructor, or Greek and Latin, or French.

SENIOR SOPHISTERS.

23. Continued.
24. Continued.
27. Conic Sections and Spheric Geometry.
28. Chemistry.
29. Natural and Politic Law. Burlamaqui. 2 vols. 8vo.
30. Paley's Moral and Political Philosophy.—Political Economy.
31. Butler's Analogy of Religion to the constitution and course of Nature. 8vo.

Declamations, forensics, and themes, the two first terms as in the junior year.

Table of Private Exercises.

FRESHMEN.

Morning exercise.—Monday to Saturday, inclusive.—Greek and Latin. Through the year.

Forenoon.—Monday to Friday.—Algebra and Geometry; 1st and 2d terms, and 3 weeks of 3d term. English Grammar; 4 weeks of 3d term.

Forenoon.—Saturday.—Declamation, History, and Antiquities. Through the year.

Afternoon.—Monday to Friday.—Greek and Latin. Through the year.

SOPHOMORES.

Morning.—Monday to Saturday.—Greek and Latin. Through the year.

Forenoon.—Monday to Friday.—Greek and Latin; 1st term. Rhetoric; 2d term. Mathematics; 3d term.

Forenoon.—Saturday.—History, and Declamation or English composition. Through the year.

Afternoon.—Monday to Friday.—Geometry; 1st and 2d terms. Logarithms and Intellectual Philosophy; 3d term.

JUNIORS.

Morning.—Monday to Saturday.—Me-

Mathematics; 1st term. Natural Philosophy; 2d and 3d term.

Forenoon.—Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.—Theology; 1st term. Hebrew, or substitute; 2d term. Mathematics; 3d term.

Forenoon.—Thursday.—Forensics or Themes. Through the year.

Afternoon.—Monday to Thursday.—Greek and Latin; 1st and 2d terms. Moral Philosophy; 1st seven weeks of 3d term. Greek Testament; last five weeks of 3d term.

SENIORS.

Morning.—Monday to Friday.—Mathematics and Chemistry; 1st and half 2d term. Moral and Political Philosophy; half 2d and 3d term.

Forenoon.—Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.—Astronomy; 1st term. Theology; 2d term.

Forenoon.—Thursday.—Forensics or Themes; 1st and 2d terms.

Afternoon.—Monday to Thursday.—Moral and Political Philosophy; 1st term. Intellectual Philosophy; 2d term to April.

The Instructor of French and Spanish attends two days in the week, to give lessons to such members of each class as desire to learn either or both of those languages—and three days in the week on such as pursue French as a substitute for Hebrew.

N. B. The following is the rule of the Immediate Government in respect to candidates for *advanced standing*, who may have pursued their studies in a different order from that which is observed in this seminary.

“Whereas, in consequence of the different order of studies in the different colleges, candidates from other colleges for advanced standing in this, while deficient in some branches, may yet have anticipated others; so that on the whole they have learned an equal amount of the studies of this seminary, with the class, for admission to which they apply; in such cases the Immediate Government will receive the anticipated, for the deficient studies. Provided, however, no studies shall be received in compensation but such as form a part of the course at this college; and that the candidate have so much knowledge in each department as to be able to go on with the class. And the applicant shall be admitted only on condition that he afterwards make up such deficient studies, to the satisfaction of the Government upon examination; and should he neglect so to do, his connexion with the University shall be forfeited. Candidates from such a distance, as ren-

ders it difficult to obtain a knowledge of the exact order of studies at this college, shall be entitled to the privilege of the foregoing rule?”

Where persons have been led by circumstances to pursue their preparatory studies in approved text books other than those in use here, they will be examined accordingly.

LECTURES, distinct from private exercises, are delivered to the whole college, or to one or more classes, or a select number of undergraduates or graduates, by the several professors;—on Divinity, to the whole college, part of every Lord's Day;—on Sacred Criticism, Philology, Rhetoric and Oratory, and Physics, Friday at 10 o'clock, and Saturday at 9 o'clock;—on Intellectual Philosophy—on Natural Religion, Moral Philosophy, and Civil Polity at times to be appointed;—on Astronomy, on Mineralogy and Geology, three forenoons in a week first term of the senior year. A full course of experimental Philosophy; of Chemistry; and a course of Anatomy, with preparations; a limited number on the Theory and Practice of Medicine, and the lectures of the Royall Professor of Law are given, three or four times a week, in each department, between the first of April and the middle of July. The course of Botany is twice a week, between the first Wednesday in April and the seventh Friday before Commencement, and of Zoology weekly the rest of the year. Besides these are the Dexter Lectures, occasionally given, on Biblical Criticism; those on the History and Polity of our churches, and those given to graduates and to students in the learned professions.

Besides the recitations and literary exercises before stated, there is a public examination of each class in the third term, and a public exhibition of performances in composition and elocution, and in the mathematical sciences three times a year; the Bowdoin prize dissertations read in the chapel the third term, the collection of theses to be printed at Commencement, the performances of Commencement day, and the speaking for Boylston prizes the day after.

An attendance is permitted on such teachers of polite accomplishments, as are approved by the authority of the college.

DEVOTIONAL EXERCISES, AND THE OBSERVANCE OF THE LORD'S DAY. The members of the college attend prayers and the reading of the Scriptures in the chapel every morning and evening, when the President, or in his absence, a pro-

fessor or tutor officiates;—and the religious services of the Christian Sabbath in the University chapel, which are conducted by the president, who preaches on one part of the day; and by the Hollis Professor of Divinity, who delivers a lecture on the other part. There is a university church of the congregational order, in which the ordinances are administered, and of which the officers last mentioned are the ministers.

Any undergraduate, who is above twenty-one years of age, and has been brought up to attend public worship at an episcopal church, who proposes to attend statedly on that service in Cambridge, on signifying in writing the fact, and his desire to the President, may have leave so to attend.—Any one under age, who has been accustomed to worship at an episcopal church, may have leave to attend statedly upon that service in Cambridge, provided it be the desire of his parent or guardian, signified in the manner aforesaid.

The college CHARGES are made in four quarter bills, of which the annual amount, to those not beneficiaries, is as follows:

Steward, - - - - -	\$10
Board in commons 33 weeks	
of term time, at about \$3	
per week, - - - - -	114
Room rent, - - - - -	12
Instruction two first years,	
\$46 each year, third year	
64, fourth year 74—average,	57 50
Librarian, repairs, lecture	
rooms, and catalogues and	
contingences, - - - - -	8
Wood, - - - - -	16
Books used in the classes, -	15

\$232 50

The room rent and wood are estimated upon the condition that two students live in a college room, and divide the expense. The rent of a room in a private house, near the college, is about fifty dollars a year; and the price of a room and board in a family from four to six dollars a week.

The foregoing charge for instruction is the whole expense under this head, and gives a student access to the lectures and recitations of the various professors and instructors, including French and Spanish, with the following exceptions, viz. For the lectures of the Professor of Natural History, on which attendance is voluntary, the fee is six dollars for the first course of Botany—for a second course four, and for Zoology nine dollars a year. The attendance on the private instructor

in Mathematics, which is also optional, is a separate charge, at the rate of seven dollars and fifty cents a quarter.

The principal part of the other expenses of a student, such as clothes and allowance of spending money, so far as the reputation, morals, improvement and happiness of the pupil are concerned, can be estimated by the judicious. The authority and influence of those intrusted with the government of the seminary are anxiously exerted to prevent extravagance, and to discountenance the culpable and pernicious emulation in expense, which may sometimes appear in particular members of the society. Still, much will depend in this respect on the course adopted by the parent, as well as on the character of the pupil. To provide an additional security, the following law, requiring the appointment of a patron, has been passed.

“Whereas, students from distant places, wanting the particular advice and control of friends, are liable to unnecessary and improper expenses, every student, not of this commonwealth, shall have some gentleman of the college or of the vicinity, approved, and if the parent or guardian desire, appointed by the president, who shall have charge of the funds, and superintend the expenses of said student, and without whose permission he shall not contract debts, on the penalty of dismissal from the college or other punishment.”

GRADUATES of this and other colleges, of good character, are permitted to reside at the University for the purposes of study, and have access to the library and lectures.

THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY of the University was established by the corporation and overseers, assisted by the Society for promoting Theological Education at the University.—Graduates of any public college or university of suitable character, may reside at the university as students in divinity.

They are to be recommended to the corporation by the President and Hollis Professor of Divinity; and when their distance or other circumstances require, to produce proper testimonials.

Applications are to be made in person or by letter to the President, or Professor of Divinity, or to the Registrar of the University.

The pecuniary assistance, at the disposal of the corporation and trustees of the society, for the benefit of theological students, is to be applied, first to those alone, whose characters, abilities, and improve-

ments afford the promise of usefulness; and secondly, with a regard to what their circumstances make necessary to enable them to devote their whole time, or the greatest part of it, to their preparation for the ministry.

It is understood that a faithful use of their advantages, and an exemplary conduct, are indispensable conditions of their receiving the aid of the institution.

INSTRUCTIONS AND EXERCISES.—The theological students are to attend the religious services of the college chapel, as well as to have devotional exercises with each other. They have access to the public lectures of the several professors in Cambridge and in Boston, on the moral and physical sciences. The theological and ethical studies are divided into three annual courses, corresponding to three classes, and are superintended by gentlemen in different offices in the University, or members of the corporation or overseers, whose lectures and exercises the students are to attend, as follows:—In the Evidences of Revelation, Christian Theology, and the interpretation of the Scriptures, by the President and Hollis Professor of Divinity. The Hebrew and Greek Old Testament, by the Professor of Hebrew and the Greek Professor. Elements of Biblical Criticism, by the Dexter Lecturer. Composition of Sermons, and Pulpit Oratory, by the Boylston Professor of Rhetoric. On Ecclesiastical Polity, and especially the History and Constitution of the American and New-England Churches, by the Rev. Dr. Holmes. The Pastoral Office, by the Rev. W. E. Channing. Intellectual Philosophy, by the Professor of Logic and Metaphysics. Natural Religion and Ethics, by the Alford Professor of Natural Religion, Moral Philosophy and Civil Polity.

A **LAW SCHOOL** is established at the University, under the superintendence of the University Professor of Law.

Candidates for admission to the Law School must be graduates of some college, or qualified by the rules of the courts to become students at law, and of good moral character. They will be required to give bond for the payment of quarterly dues, including the fee for instruction, which is not to exceed one hundred dollars annually. Those who desire it, will be furnished with commons on the same terms as other members of the University; and, as far as possible, with lodging rooms. They will be allowed to attend, free of expense, the lectures of the Royall Professor of Law, the private

lectures on Intellectual and on Moral and Political Philosophy designed for graduates; also the public lectures of the Professors generally, comprising the courses on Theology, Rhetoric and Oratory, Philology, natural and experimental Philosophy and Astronomy, Anatomy, Chemistry and Mineralogy, and other branches relating to Physical science. The Law students are to have access to the University library, on the same conditions as resident graduates, as well as to the Law library, which shall be established.

A degree of Bachelor of Laws is instituted in the University, to be conferred on such students as shall have remained at least eighteen months at the University School, and passed the residue of their novitiate in a manner approved. Applications in writing or in person may be made to the Registrar of the University, or to the President, or to the Professor of Law.

In the **MEDICAL SCHOOL**, the lectures for Medical students are delivered at the Massachusetts Medical College of Harvard University in Boston; they commence annually on the third Wednesday in November, and continue for three months. Students, before attending the lectures, are to be matriculated by entering their names with the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine. The degree of Doctor of Medicine is given twice a year, viz. at the close of the lectures, and at the public Commencement in August. Candidates must pass a satisfactory private examination, and at a public examination read and defend a dissertation. Before being admitted to private examination, the candidate must have attended two courses of lectures in the Medical college on each of the following subjects, viz. Anatomy and Surgery, Chemistry, and the Theory and Practice of Physic,—he must have employed three years in professional studies under the direction of a regular practitioner, including the time occupied in attending the lectures. If not educated at the University, he must satisfy the Faculty of his knowledge of Latin and experimental Philosophy. He shall be examined upon the following branches, viz. Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry, Materia Medica, Pharmacy, Midwifery, Surgery, and the Theory and Practice of Medicine. The students, during the lectures, have access to the Medical College Library of 4000 volumes, and the Boylston Medical Library, Cambridge; and they have opportunities of seeing practice. The fees for the lectures are as follows:—

for the course on Anatomy and Surgery \$20, Chemistry and the Theory and Practice of Physic \$15 each, Materia Medica and Midwifery, each \$10. The fee for the degree of M. D. to one who has not taken a degree at any university or college is \$20, to a Bachelor of Arts \$15, to a Master of Arts \$10.

The officers of the University, concerned in the instruction or immediate administration, are a President, one or more Professors in each of the following branches: Divinity, Law, Theory and Practice of Medicine, Anatomy and Surgery, Chemistry and Mineralogy, the Greek language, Greek literature, Latin language and literature, French and Spanish languages and literature, Hebrew and other oriental languages, Natural History, Mathematics and Natural and Experimental Philosophy, Intellectual Philosophy, Natural Religion, Moral Philosophy and Civil Polity, Rhetoric and Oratory, Belles Lettres, the Rumford Professor on the application of the Mathematical and Physical sciences to the useful arts, a Lecturer on Sacred Criticism, on Ecclesiastical History and Polity, on Materia Medica, on Obstetrics, two Tutors in Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, a Librarian, Instructor in French and Spanish, Regent, Proctors and Registrar.

JOHN THORNTON KIRKLAND,
President.

FOREIGN.

Under the auspices of government a College is to be established at *Buenos Ayres*.

Mr. J. E. Dekay, a gentleman of this city, now pursuing the study of medicine in the University of Edinburgh, among other interesting articles of intelligence which he communicates to Professor Mitchill, states: passing through London, on my way from Paris, I was shown a most magnificent work by Mr. ABBOT, on the Birds and Insects of *Georgia*. It was the labour of twenty years, and contains more than five thousand figures. Every plate was drawn and coloured by himself; and is accompanied with specific characters in his own hand-writing. The work has been extended to twenty quarto volumes, and commands the price of two hundred and fifty guineas the set. This

sum puts it almost beyond the reach of a private individual, but I should rejoice to hear that some of our learned societies had become purchasers."

H. R. SAUERLANDER in Aerau, and WILLIAM SCHAEFFER in Frankfort on the Maine, Germany, publish a periodical work, entitled: Contributions towards a *History of our own Time*, edited by H. Zschokke. One of the late numbers contains a translation of Gov. CLINTON's Introductory Discourse before the Literary and Philosophical Society of New-York.

EUSEBIUS SALVERTE, a learned citizen of Geneva, has translated into the French language, and accompanied with an erudite comment, Professor MITCHILL's *Paper on the Population of America*. The whole has been published in the *Bibliothèque Universelle*, and appears to be a subject of an interesting discussion in the city where CALVIN and ROSSAU resided.

An aggregated substance was found in the diamond mines in Brazil, containing diamonds, gold, iron, &c. A specimen of this mass has been sent to Mr. Marve, England, who is to examine this *gangue of the Diamond*.

Professor WARZUR of Marburg, has found the *oxide of iron*, and a trace of the *oxide of manganese* in a *human calculus*. He has met with both the same oxides in *pulmonary concretions*.

VON LEONHARD, an eminent mineralogist of Munich, is appointed Professor of Mineralogy at Heidelberg.

Of the greatest Astronomers now living in Europe, thirteen are Germans, eight Italians, four Frenchmen. Two are assigned to Great Britain, two to Spain and Portugal, and to all the northern European Nations, three.

At a late meeting of the *Horticultural Society of London*, Professor HOSACK, of this city, was elected an honorary member. The same gentleman has also recently been elected one of the twelve honorary members of the *Medical and Chirurgical Society of London*.

At a late meeting of the *Linnean Society of London*, on the 5th of May last, there were three vacancies of foreign membership, caused by deaths during the past year. These vacancies were filled by the election of Baron F. H. A. DE HUMBOLDT, of Berlin, Professor CUVIER, of Paris, and Governor CLINTON of New-York.

ART. 9. MONTHLY SUMMARY OF POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE.

EUROPE.

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

MR. RUSH, the American minister, has been presented to the Prince Regent in due form.

From the "extraordinary red book," it appears that in pensions and salaries, there are distributed annually by the English government to

31 persons - - - -	\$ 2,553,917
5 do. - - - -	971,789
10 do. - - - -	1,409,573

A contagious fever prevails in London. It is attributed to the wretched quality of the food of the lower classes.

382 emigrants, mostly labourers, and many of them having much money, have lately left Dumfries for America.

A fleet, consisting of two 80's and six 74's is to cruise for 2 months for discipline.

An incombustible store house has been completed in Plymouth dock-yard, every part of which is composed of stone and iron, without an inch of wood in the whole building; the girders, joists, doors, sashes, and frames, are all of cast iron, neatly executed. The roof is also of cast iron, and the floors of Yorkshire stone, the staircase, which is a geometrical one, is of Moorstone, projecting six feet from the wall. The estimated expense of this novel building is 15,000*l*.

Provisions exported from *Waterford*, for the year ending April 30—5,070 tierces beef, 2,768 bbls. do.; 1776 tierces pork, 11,492 bbls. do.; 95,074 cwt. butter; 11,037 do. lard; 249,739 flitches bacon; besides a large quantity of wheat, oats, barley, oat-meal, &c. Total value, 1,564,291*l*. 1*s*.

Notwithstanding this great export, worth nearly seven millions of dollars for a single port, the mass of the population suffered excessively during the year for the want of provisions.

We have dreadful accounts of the fever that lately prevailed in the southern parts of Ireland—it appears to have swept off the people by thousands—it is supposed to have been caused by the want of provisions among the lower classes.

On the 27th of May, the chancellor of the exchequer stated, in the house of commons, that the general state of the country was most promising, and that the revenue was improving at the rate of 100,000*l*. per week.

Despatches from the North Pole expe-

dition, dated off Shetland, May 3, have been received. The officers and crew were all well.

The west of England papers state that the appearance of the country is extremely fine, and furnishes a pleasing prospect of an abundant harvest.

It is estimated that the total import of cotton into Great Britain during the month of April, amounted to 42,557 bags.

FRANCE.

The number of deaths in Paris, which in 1816 amounted to but 19,801, in 1817, has increased to 21,331, a difference of more than 1,531.

The body of *marshal Ney*, which was interred in the *Pere la Chaise*, at Paris, has been taken up and conveyed to his country seat, where it has been deposited, and an elegant monument erected over it. A magnificent church is erecting in the *Rue d'Anjou*, Paris, on the spot where the late *queen of France* was interred. The altar is placed immediately over the grave.

The French government have advertised for a loan of 14,600,000 francs.

A man was ordered to be whipt to death at Fontainebleau, for crying *vive l'empereur*.

A violent affray took place at Cambria between a number of French and English officers, in consequence of some "free opinions" of the latter about the battle of Waterloo. A battle with sabres took place, and it is said that several persons were killed. A London paper observes—"since the passing of the conscription law, the *military faction* in France have assumed an insolent demeanour, especially towards the English, which is but too likely to lead, in many instances, to a fatal result."

The Royal Academy of Science, in their sitting of the 27th of April, has heard, with lively interest, a detail made by Mr. Richerand, of a singular operation performed by that skilful surgeon. This operation, in which the heart and lungs have been uncovered, by making the resection of two ribs, and by cutting about eight inches square of the *pleure*, which had become swelled with cancer, is new in the history of surgery, and reaches the bounds of possibility in this species of operation. No doubt Mr. Richerand will soon give to the world the memoir in which he has detailed the particulars of this bold and successful undertaking.

SPAIN.

Gibraltar.

Under date of May 7th, a writer says, "I have the pleasure to announce to you that the measures adopted by our government, in the case of Mr. Meade, have had the desired effect, and that that gentleman was set at liberty three days ago. It exhibits the power and respectability of our country, in compelling to a single act of justice the cruel despot who arrogantly stiles himself the king of the two worlds."

The Russian fleet at Cadiz, upon examination, prove defective—so much so, that they were all *condemned*, except one, which the Spanish government *talk* of fitting out.

The wretched state of the Spanish finances has caused the *stealth* of a great number of cattle to subsist the troops collected near Cadiz. Great preparations are still making for an expedition to South-America.

ITALY.

By accounts from Rome, we learn that public safety becomes daily more confirmed in the Pontifical States. Nearly all the chiefs of the brigand bands have surrendered themselves, amongst these is the noted Cesaris. The army of the line of holiness is estimated at about 9000 men.

The king of Naples and his brother Charles IV. of Spain, went lately to *Pompeia*, where, after inspecting some fine works lately discovered, they went in a carriage through the streets of the city where the noise of *wheels* had not been heard for more than 1,500 years!

GERMANY.

An article from Dresden, states that all the fortifications erected by Bonaparte on the right bank of the Elbe, have been demolished.

By the last geographical details published in Austria, the population of that monarchy amounts to 27,613,000 souls. They are divided thus—21,000,000 Catholics, 2,500,000 belong to the Greek church, 2,000,000 to the reformed church, 1,450,000 Lutherans, 400,000 Jews, about 40,000 Unitarians.

Young Napoleon has received the dukedom of Reichstadt, in Bohemia, which title, with the appellation of highness, he is hereafter to bear.

The duke of Saxe Weimar has granted a liberal *constitution* to the people of his duchy; he is celebrated as the first German sovereign who has given to his

people an acknowledgment of their rights, by a constitution.

The British have failed in a great attempt made to purchase up the *wool*, and so stop the German manufactories! The Germans were patriotic enough to refuse to sell it.

RUSSIA.

The *ice* on the Neva at Petersburg, was passed over by carriages until the 25th of April.

Five ships of the line, and three frigates were fitted out at Cronstadt, the beginning of April.

The grand duke Constantine, the brother of the emperor Alexander, and viceroy of Poland has been elected a deputy to the diet of Poland by the citizens of the Prague, suburb of Warsaw. The grand duke had 103 votes, the next highest had three.

TURKEY.

It is stated in an article from Constantinople, that the negotiations between Russia and the Porte were entirely at a stand, and that the Spanish minister had been unable to obtain the satisfaction he sought, although supported in his demands by other foreign ministers. A suspicion is hinted that the Ottoman court and Persia are about to form a species of federation to protect themselves against the European powers.

A Greek, who had turned Turk, lately repented, and professing the Greek religion again, required to be beheaded, conformable to the Mahometan law, for deserting the faith of the prophet. His desire was complied with, after many attempts to change his resolution.

The Mussulmans in Palestine have taken possession of the Holy Sepulchre; and the Abbe Forbin Janson has proceeded to Constantinople to reclaim from the grand seignor the keeping of the tomb of Jesus. It produces an annual income of 260,000 dollars.

ASIA.

EAST INDIES.

The British defeated Holkar on the 21st Dec. last, near Maheidpooz—he lost 2000 men. The fight was obstinate—the British had 30 officers and 700 men killed and wounded. They have had a severe battle with the troops of Berar, in which also, they doubtfully claim a victory, and acknowledge the loss of 14 officers and 349 men—but in a second battle the rajah was fully defeated, and lost 40 elephants and 75 pieces of cannon.

AFRICA.

BARBARY STATES.

From Hamburg it is stated that the Danish frigate *Nymph*, of 44 guns, had sailed for the Mediterranean to protect the navigation of Danish vessels, and to convey presents to the bey of Tunis.

Sicily pays an annual tribute of 25,000 piasters to Algiers.

AMERICA.

WEST-INDIES.

The revenue of Martinique amounts to five millions of francs.

Havana.

A letter says "Nearly one thousand slaves arrived in our harbour yesterday—The celebrated ship called "*Fa-ma Habenera*," built in New-York, for the house of Messrs. Questa Mauzanal and Brother, of this place, came in yesterday from Africa, with 723 slaves, a cargo worth 300,000 dollars cash.

100,449 boxes of sugar, and 306,723 arrobas of coffee, were exported from Havana in the first months of the present year, during which there were 494 arrivals, and 567 departures of vessels.

Floating ice has been recently met with in the West India seas—outside the gulph stream, in the 29th deg. of latitude—a thing never before heard of.

Hayti.

March 2.—The following regulation, respecting political rights, had been added to the 38th article of the constitution, by a decree issued in the beginning of February:

"A white man who marries a woman of Hayti, becomes a citizen, and after a residence of one year and a day, is eligible to all offices, and may become a proprietor on the island; a white woman marrying an inhabitant of Hayti, becomes a female citizen at Hayti.

"A white man of any part of the world, marrying a negress in the place where he resides, may come to the territory of the republic. On his arrival the expenses of his voyage shall be paid him. This regulation is applicable to both sexes."

By a decree of the month of February, the decimal system is adopted for the coin. It is said that the decimal almanac will be introduced, and that only the names to the months chosen by the French republic will be changed for others, suitable to the climate of the country.

BRITISH AMERICA.

Nova Scotia and New-Brunswick.

"Free Port Act," received the sanction of the Prince Regent on the 8th of May. The following are the provisions of this Act:

That, from and after the passing of this

act, it shall and may be lawful, in any British built ship or vessel, owned and navigated according to law, or in any ship or vessel belonging to the subjects of any sovereign or state in amity with his Majesty, to import into such ports as shall be specially appointed for that purpose by His Majesty, within the province of Nova Scotia or New-Brunswick, the following articles, viz. scantling, planks, staves, heading boards, shingles, hoops, horses, neat cattle, sheep, hogs, poultry, or live stock of any sort, bread, biscuit, flour, peas, beans, potatoes, wheat, rice, oats, barley or grain of any sort, pitch, tar, turpentine, fruits, seeds, and tobacco.

II. *Provided always, and be it further enacted*, That none of the aforesaid articles shall be imported into the said ports, so to be specially appointed, in foreign vessels, unless the said articles shall be of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the country to which the vessels importing the same shall belong.

III. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be lawful to re-export any of the said articles either to the United Kingdom, or to any other of his Majesty's possessions, in any British built ship or vessel, owned and navigated according to law.

IV. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall and may be lawful in any British ship or vessel, or in any ship or vessel belonging to the subjects of any sovereign or state, in amity with his Majesty, to export from the said ports, to be appointed for that purpose, gypsum, grindstones, or other produce or manufacture of the said provinces; and also any produce or manufacture of the United Kingdom, or of his Majesty's colonies or plantations in the West-Indies, or any goods whatever, which shall have been legally imported into the said provinces, any thing in any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

V. *Provided always, and be it further enacted*, That none of the aforesaid articles shall be exported from the said ports, so to be appointed, to any foreign country or place, in any foreign vessel, unless such foreign vessel shall belong to the country to which the said articles shall be exported.

VI. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall and may be lawful for His Majesty, by and with the advice of his privy Council, to make such rules and regulations for the importation and exportation of goods and commodities as aforesaid, at the said ports, with such penalties and forfeitures for the breach thereof, as shall seem fit and necessary to his majesty, by and with the advice aforesaid.

VII. *And be it further enacted*, That this act shall continue in force during the space of three years from and after passing the same, and until six weeks after the commencement of the then next session of Parliament.

Canada.

Hydrophobia. Mr. Gray,—I took the liberty some time since to send you the receipt of a remedy for the *Hydrophobia*. It appeared to have succeeded in many trials, and soon acquired reputation. I now send you another, of which the efficacy is authenticated by a distinguished curate of this province, as ascertained by above *eighty successful cases*.

Take the under shell of an Oyster, put it into the fire till it becomes red hot, then pulverize and sift it—break four eggs, of which make an omelette with the powder—fry it with a large table spoonful of olive oil. The patient must eat this after fasting six hours, and he must fast also six hours after it. The remedy must be repeated on the third and fifth days.

If the patient is averse to taking the remedy in this shape, he may take the powder in a glass of white wine.

S. C. B.

Boucherville, June 14, 1818.

During the late warm weather the St. Lawrence, at Cape Chat, was nearly closed up with ice, and the mountains and highlands in that quarter, on both sides of the river, were covered with snow. Indians, come in from a hunting excursion, only about 40 miles to the northward of Quebec, report that on the 1st inst. the winter's snow was still lying in the woods, and not a bud had appeared on the trees, which, in this neighborhood, were in leaf on the 20th May.

We have additional accounts of the proceedings of the *reformists*. The delegates elected by the townships of Niagara have met in *district* convention; and passed many resolutions preparatory to a *provincial* convention to be held at York on the 6th of July next.

Emigrants from Great Britain and Ireland continue to arrive in great numbers at the port of Québec. They generally proceed up the river in the steam boats; the total number arrived this season, is little short of 3000.

SOUTH AMERICA.

The United States' frigate Congress, Commodore SINCLAIR, anchored in Hampton Roads on Wednesday afternoon, from Buenos Ayres. Messrs. Graham

and Rodney, two of the Commissioners sent out to the new republic by our government last fall, in the Congress, have returned in her. Mr. Bland, another of the Commissioners, who went out in the Congress, remains at Buenos Ayres, in the quality of a public representative from the government of the United States.

The Congress touched at the island of Margarita. The island was still in possession of the patriots, who had rendered it almost impregnable. General Arismendi, second in command of the patriot forces, had his head-quarters at Margarita.

Gentlemen in the Congress say that the affairs of the patriots were never in a more flourishing condition. They had lately been reinforced by a fine brigade of artillery, composed entirely of British troops, which rendezvoused at St. Thomas in New Guyana, in March last. We are unequivocally assured that so late as the 22d of June, Cumana had not been attacked by the patriots, on the contrary it was hourly expected to surrender without resistance, as the patriots had for some time been closely besieging it, and had drawn their lines to within pistol shot of the town. Brown and Aury had united their fleets at Margarita and were waiting the orders of the Commander in Chief, Gen. Bolivar.

We also learn that the morning the Congress was getting under way from Margarita, a dispatch vessel arrived there from the Main, bringing positive intelligence of the death of the Spanish General Morillo, occasioned by a lance wound he received in the body about 7 or 8 weeks before.

The late actions in Chili have resulted in the total defeat of the royalists; their general and a few men only having escaped. The first action took place on the night of the 19th March, when the advanced guard of the patriots were put to the route. On the 23d following, a general action took place, and ended at nine o'clock at night, in the dispersion of the royal forces, with the loss of 3,500 killed, wounded and prisoners.

On the 5th of April, 1818, in the plains of Maipo, a battle was fought between the royalists and the patriots of Chili; in which the royalists were defeated. Their army was totally destroyed, about 2,200 being killed and wounded, and 3,200 taken prisoners. The patriot loss was about 1000 in killed and wounded.

ART. 10. DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

THE New-Hampshire Gazette states, that the fishing schooners *Cyrus King of Kittery*, *Polly and Roxana*, of Portsmouth, *Eight Sisters* of Portland, and one belonging to Fox Islands, all with good fares of fish, have been taken by the British sloop of war *Syren*, in the bay of Fundy, sent into Digby, and stripped of their sails, &c. but the crew of the *Cyrus King* got their ship keeper drunk, obtained sails from the custom house, which they bent, cut their cable, warped out of the harbour, got under way, and arrived safe at the Kittery.

The receipts of the treasury of New-Hampshire for the year ending May 31, 1818, including the balance of the preceding year, amounted to \$83,888 15. This sum was derived principally from the proceeds of the state tax for 1817—dividend of the following stocks, viz. \$95,134 45 U. S. three per cents, \$23,732 76 U. S. Six per cents, \$17,605 U. S. Seven per cents, and \$25,000 stock of the New-Hampshire bank—\$100,58 52 principal re-imbursed of the old U. S. six per cent stock—and \$6,000, from the United States, on account of the war debt.

The expenses of the government for the year, including salaries of officers of the state, and travel and attendance of the members of the Council, Senate, and House of Representatives

amount to - - - - -	\$25,598 84
Paid on account of State Prison - - - - -	7,000
Do. State House	30,000
Bounty on Wild Cats and Crows - - - - -	289 87
Miscellaneous expenses - - -	136 56
Taxes out-standing - - -	2,585 31
Balance in the treasury - - -	23,277 57
	<hr/>
	88,888 15

The legislature of this state adjourned on Tuesday last.

A bill passed in the House providing that the salary of the Chief Justice should in future be \$1500, and the associate Justices \$1300 each. The Senate amended it by substituting \$1400 for the Chief Justice, and \$1200 for the Associates.

MASSACHUSETTS.

G. W. Campbell, Esq. has sailed from Boston, with his family, in the United States' frigate *Guerriere*, for St. Petersburg. He was received and treated with great courtesy at Boston.

The following is the amount of fish brought into Marblehead during the fishing season of the year 1817, 736,600
Do. do. 1818, 159,700

Difference in favour of last year, 576,900

The islands in the bay of Passamaquoddy, called *Moose*, *Dudley*, and *Frederick* Islands, taken possession of by the British during the last war, were delivered up to the United States on the 30th of June last.

The following interesting account of the killed and wounded at the battle of Bunker Hill is extracted from a British periodical publication called "*Remembrancer*" into which it was copied from a R. I. Providence newspaper.

Providence, July 15, 1775.—The following is an exact return of the killed, wounded and missing of the American army in the action of the 17th of June, at Charlestown, viz.

Regiments.	Killed and Missing.	Wounded.
Col. Stark's {	N. Hamp. 15	45
Read's {		
Gen. Ward's	1	6
Col. Scammon's	0	2
Bridge's	15	29
Gerrish's	3	2
Prescot's	42	28
Whitcomb's	5	8
Fry's	15	31
Brewer's	7	11
Nixon's	3	10
Little's	7	23
Woodbridge's	1	5
Gardiner's	6	7
Doolittle's	0	9
Gridley's	0	4
Gen. Putnam's		
Capt. Coit	Con. 15	30
Chester		
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	135	250

About 30 missing since returned 30

220

135

Total killed, wounded and missing, 353

It may be gratifying to the friends of theological science to learn, that a new building is now nearly completed for the use of the Theological Seminary at Andover. Its length is 94 feet—width 40. The building is three stories in height, and the part of it to be appropriated for

the Chapel will occupy two stories, and will finish 60 by 36 feet. The library room is in the third story, of the same length and breadth as the chapel. There are also three lecture rooms, one in each story, 36 by 20 feet. The building is surmounted by an elegant cupola, and is furnished with a clock of superior workmanship, with a dial in front and rear of the building. In point of materials and elegance, this edifice is said to vie with any in the U. S.

The foundation is also laid for rebuilding Philip's Academy which is to be 80 feet by 40, and two stories high.

The Sea Serpent has again made his appearance off Cape Ann.

It is stated that about 50 ships are now absent from Nantucket on whaling voyages.

CONNECTICUT.

In the evening of the 9th May last, a man named Elihu Miller, having "taken a cup too much," wandered to a precipice not far north of Rockway's ferry in Lyme, and not knowing where he was, deliberately walked, or rather reeled to its brink, from which he fell 46 feet perpendicularly among the rocks below. He was found the next morning, taken up and carried home. His life for a while was almost despaired of; but he is now in a fair way of recovery.

It is stated in a North-Hampton paper of the 30th ult. that swarms of Locusts are now visiting the town of Hadley, and extending their ravages along the east bank of Connecticut River, 20 or 30 miles south of that town. "Many of the forest trees are already apparently dead; and the progress of the Locusts is as distinctly marked as the progress of a fire. The female Locusts are armed with a sting of nearly the third of an inch in length, and of the stiffness and point of a wire sharpened. They attach themselves to the under side of the small limbs, and commence the process of *stinging*. Their progress is to the extremity of the limb, which is as distinctly marked as it could be by obliquely puncturing the limb with an awl and so raising the awl at each puncture as to crack the bark in a regular, continued, and unless impeded by some obstruction, nearly a right line. There are about three incisions to an inch, each penetrating to the heart of the limb, which is filled with small worms, or eggs, of the colour and appearance of very small kernels of rice, but distinctly visible to the naked eye."

On Saturday the 4th inst. the freemen of the state assembled in their respective

towns for the choice of delegates to a convention, to be held in Hartford in August next, for the formation of a Constitution of civil government.

The political complexion of the House of Delegates, who are to form a Constitution of civil government for this state, will be as follows:—

Democratic,	- - - -	105
Federal,	- - - -	96

Democratic majority, 9

We are gratified to be able to state, that the Hartford Bridge Company have made arrangements by contract, to have an entire new bridge completed by the first of November next.

NEW-YORK.

A very large sword fish was taken on the 10th of June, by capt. Comstock, of the smack David Porter, about 30 miles south of Sandy Hook. He is between 11 and 12 feet long, the largest part of the body 4 feet round, his sword 4 feet long, eyes 9 inches in circumference, and weighs about 300 pounds. He is to be seen at Scudder's Museum.

It is estimated that *two thousand* houses, which will cost *five millions* of dollars, are going up in New-York. The present population is supposed to be 125,000.

The remains of the much lamented gen. Montgomery, have been removed from Quebec, under the direction of his nephew col. Livingston, to the city of New-York, where they were committed to the tomb on the 8th of July, 1818, with all those demonstrations of respect which his character and patriotic services were eminently calculated to inspire. The funeral service was read by bishop Hobart, and an impressive eulogy delivered by the Rev. Dr. Mason.

The Hessian Fly—We are extremely sorry to say, is committing great ravages in the wheat fields in the vicinity of Albany. In some neighbourhoods in Bethlehem, Guilderland, &c. it is not expected that so much will be obtained from the crops as the seed sown. The season has, moreover, been too warm and wet for spring wheat and other small grains, which were not in general sown in the 15th or 20th of May. The fly has also made its appearance among the barley.

Grass promises to be very abundant, and farmers have begun to cut clover. Corn, considering how late it was planted, looks remarkably well.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Dr. Coxe of Philadelphia, has been appointed by the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania. *Professor Materia*

Medica, in the place of Dr. Dorsy, lately appointed *Professor of Anatomy*.

We understand that the *Mint* in Philadelphia has lately coined, and has now nearly ready for delivery, four hundred thousand quarter dollars.

In one township in Bedford county, containing about thirty families, twenty-two thousand pounds of maple sugar were made last season—its value on the spot, at 12 cents per lb. was \$2,640—so much value created for the enjoyment of society.

MARYLAND.

Subscription books were opened at Easton the 18th inst. for the purpose of raising thirty-five thousand dollars, in shares of one hundred dollars each, to establish a steam-boat, to ply between the towns of Easton, Annapolis, and Baltimore.

The cartels containing the garrison of Pensacola, have arrived at Havana, and the news had created considerable sensation.

SOUTH-CAROLINA.

Exports from Charleston—Of cotton, rice and tobacco, from the 1st October, 1817, to 31st May, 1818.

	Cotton. bales.	Rice. tierces.	Tob. hhds.
To Great Britain,	9358	39571	11672
France,	691	7528	8194
The rest of Europe,	23	2708	21001
West Indies,			8475
Coastwise,		6138	13144
Total	1069	55942	62786

The citizens of Columbia, have formed a company to build a steam-boat to ply between that place and Charleston. It is calculated that she will make two trips in a month, and each time carry down 250 bales of cotton. Certain small obstructions to the navigation are to be removed.

GEORGIA.

The exports from Savannah from the first Oct. 1817, to the 31st May, 1818.

Cotton, Sea Island,	6,462 bales,
Upland,	89,475
Rice,	15,395 tierces,
Tobacco,	3,243 hhds.

Mr. Timothy Bernard, in a letter to captain W. S. Mitchell, dated on the 4th inst. states that 4 red men have been sent up as a deputation from the Seminoles to sue for peace. They say as they have made up their minds to remain in peace with the white people, they hope the

white people will remain so with them. The hostile Indians have assembled at Alotchew, and have nothing to subsist on but a few cattle. The Indians say that the whites on the frontier of this state have taken a great many of their cattle.

KENTUCKY.

Manganese has recently been discovered in great quantities on big Sandy river in the vicinity of Greenupsburg.

The legislature of Kentucky chartered 40 new banks at the last session. The total amount of capital is \$7,720,000.

ILLINOIS.

It would appear doubtful from the following extract from an Illinois newspaper, whether the act of Congress for the admission of that territory into the union can at present take effect, seeing that the population falls below the estimated amount of forty thousand souls, and that the act of Congress requires, as a preliminary to the formation of a state constitution, "that it shall appear, from the enumeration directed to be made by the legislature of the said territory; that there are, within the proposed state, not less than forty thousand inhabitants."

TENNESSEE.

The southern campaign has closed, and major gen. Jackson and suite, arrived at Nashville on June 28th.

LOUISIANA.

New Orleans, when ceded to the United States in 1803, contained 9000 inhabitants—it now has from 32 to 35,000. The product of sugar and cotton, &c. in the parts adjacent has risen higher proportionally than the population of the capital.

The question of Fulton and Livingston's privilege is again agitated, by a suit brought in the federal court of New-Orleans, against the steam-boat Constitution. We wait with anxiety the result of a question involving the most prominent interests of Western America.

Thomas B. Robertson, Esq. of New-Orleans, has resigned his seat in the House of Representatives of the United States; Edward Livingston, Josiah S. Johnson, and Thomas Butler, Esqrs. are put in nomination to fill the vacancy.

A vessel from Pensacola, entered at the Custom-House of New-Orleans on the 8th of June, with a clearance signed "James Gadsden, acting collector of the port of Pensacola."

ART. 11. ANALECTA.

From the Philosophical Magazine.
On Flax-steeping, and its Effects on the Colour and Quality of the Flax. By Gavin Inglis, Esq.

To Mr. Tilloch.

DEAR SIR,

IF you consider the following observations on flax-steeping worthy of a place in your valuable Magazine, I will thank you to insert them. They are the substance of answers furnished by me to inquiries made upon that subject by G. Thomson, Esq. of the Trustees Office, Edinburgh.

When in Dumbartonshire in 1801, reducing to practice the process of bleaching by steam, I had a few spindles of yarn given to me to prepare for weaving. There was, in the sleekness of the thread, something that attracted my attention. Having soaked it over night in warm water to prepare it for steaming, I was much surprised at the change of colour, and the quantity of colouring matter dissolved in the water. It was then washed, wrung, and soaked in a weak alkaline ley, and laid for steaming over some brown linens. After steaming the usual time, the covers were taken off. The yarn was found to have attained a degree of whiteness I never had before observed under similar circumstances. It was washed in the stream so long as any colouring matter came from it, and laid to the grass for two days. I remember well the colour was such as to impress me with a strong belief that some great and important discovery might be the result of accurately following up the process this flax had gone through; and I immediately made inquiry of the lady to whom the yarn belonged, who informed me she had it from a person she named, in the neighbourhood: to this individual I made the same application, and traced the yarn to have been purchased at a Kilmarnock fair.

Here the matter rested till the next season of lint pulling. I had a particular wish to trace, if possible, the matter to its source, and conceived the best plan would be to traverse that part of the country, from Stirling towards Kilmarnock. My time was far too limited; but I saw as much as to satisfy myself that the secret with regard to the bleaching, lay entirely in pulling the flax before it was too ripe; and I also found that this great advantage might again be lost by improper watering.

I saw the flax in all its stages, from the pulling to the drying after watering; and upon inquiry I uniformly found the greenest pulled was intended for the finest purposes, and that the whitest flax, after drying, had been watered in the *burn*. They were very particular in watering, and did not allow it to remain so long in the water as I had been led to believe necessary, from the practice here; nor did they spread it on the grass

after watering, as is the mode in this quarter, but dried it all from the water, by what is termed *hutting*.

As bleaching alone was my object, my inquiries respecting the different shades of colour after watering were very particular; and I uniformly found that the white flax had been watered in the burn, and the dark-coloured in ponds dug where water could be most conveniently obtained. When I mention a burn, it must be understood to be a stream so small as to require a dam being necessary to receive the water into a temporary pond to cover the flax.

The succession of clean water, I conceive, prevents the deposition of colouring principles, to be hereafter mentioned, by washing or carrying them away, after being extracted from the flax, which I had afterwards an opportunity of proving, in a pond so constructed, which produced remarkably white flax, while the same flax, from several stagnant ponds dug in the same ground, filled with water from the same spring, was very dark in the colour.

In following up these observations, my situation in life did not then admit of experiments to the extent the importance of the subject would have required. I shall, however, narrate these, so far as they extended. The result satisfied me, that the watering of flax must vary with local circumstances, and every where depend on the means afforded by springs, streams, moss, or marsh, that may be in the neighbourhood of the flax-field, so long as the present mode of culture is followed; and the colour of the flax after watering very much depend on the following causes:

The ripeness of the flax before pulling.

The state of putridity of the stagnant water.

The minerals the water may contain.

Whether it is steeped in a pond dug, or one formed by damming a small stream or rill. Or, if a succession of parcels of flax (which is sometimes the case) be watered in the same pond, where every succeeding parcel must partake of the contaminating dye produced by the fermentation of the former.

In the course of my observations, I found the quantity and solubility of the colouring matter in proportion to the degree of ripeness; and in the ripest, on a principle I never till then knew to have an existence in flax, viz. iron, which may be said to abound in ripe flax.

In unripe flax I found the colouring matter soluble in water; but this matter became less and less soluble, till the water made little or no impression upon it. The time necessary for flax to macerate must in some measure depend on the weather, but more on the state of ripeness than most practitioners seem to be aware of.

In unripe flax the juices are in a mucilaginous state; hence its solubility in water. If flax is watered in an unripe state, the mucilage, from its solubility, tends greatly to facilitate the process of watering, by promoting the fermentation. But if the flax is allowed to stand on the ground till it has attained a rusty-brown colour, and the seed fully ripened, the juices of the plant are then changed from mucilage to resinous matter, and certainly no longer soluble in water, so far as the resin is concerned, unless assisted by solvents.

In this stage, instead of having a large portion of mucilage to expedite the fermentation, the resin defends the flax for a time against the effects of the water, and the fermentation must proceed by slow degrees; consequently the time necessary to steep flax must vary according to the ripe or unripe state of the flax when pulled. What would sufficiently water unripe flax, would hardly penetrate the outer rind of the ripe; and the time required for the ripe would entirely destroy the other.

The choice (where the choice can be made) of the water, and the ground into which ponds are to be dug, or the rill or stream into which the flax is to be laid, is certainly of the highest importance, for the colour, quantity and quality of the flax.

That very great improvements may be made in the mode of separating the flax from the rind and boon, so as to render that process less offensive, far safer, and equally effectual, I have no doubt whatever. But before promulgating any speculative theory on a subject of such importance to the nation, would it not be laudable in the Honourable Board of Trustees to cause a full series of experiments on a fair scale, to be made and followed up by some persons of skill and observation, which would set the matter at rest, solve all doubts on so important a process, and furnish the farmer and flax-grower with such instructions that he could not err.

The presence of iron in the plant was discovered in my attempts to bleach flax, by different modes, to ascertain whether there existed any other principle beside mucilage, resin and oil, in what stage the juices became insoluble in water, and to what extent these substances existed, with a view to ascertain the safest strength of alkaline applications to be used in the different processes of bleaching. Alkalies are the common solvents used by bleachers; but I did not conceive them altogether adapted to my present purpose. I took alcohol, and succeeded in bleaching to a very beautiful whiteness flax in its unripe state and in its early stages; but as the flax ripened, its power lessened. I exposed full ripe flax to the action of alcohol, both in a liquid state and in the state of vapour, till I satisfied myself of having extracted all the resinous matter;—still a colour remained. I subjected it to the action of an oxymuriate, and was astonished to see

the presence of iron so strongly indicated. I took another quantity of this full ripe flax, and boiled it in a ley of prussiate of potash, prepared by calcination of common potash with green whins: from this it was washed, and immersed in oxymuriate of lime, which produced a beautiful light blue. This experiment I repeated till I produced, by apparently the same process, on the unripe flax a beautiful white, and on the full ripe, a fine, full, Prussian blue. This explained in a most satisfactory manner many of the phenomena of bleaching I never before could comprehend, and appeared to me a most wonderful work in nature,—the formation of a metal in the juices of a plant, whose existence was not detected, by the same means, in the same plant, only fourteen to twenty days younger than where its presence became so manifest.

Tan also exists in flax, and is very soluble in water.

In steeping flax, the water in the pond becomes impregnated with tan. The process of fermentation comes on, in the progress of which the iron is acted upon. The iron and tan combine, precipitate, and form an almost indestructible dye.

Thus, by inattention to the steeping of flax, the labour and expense of bleaching are greatly increased. The linen loses much of its strength and durability by the necessary process of bleaching, and destroying a colour which, by due care, might be prevented from ever fixing itself.

With esteem, I remain,

Dear Sir, yours sincerely,

GAVIN INGLIS.

Strathendry Bleachfield, Dec. 10, 1817.

The following account of a METEOR is from the pen of PROFESSOR HALL of Middlebury College.

A Meteor of uncommon magnitude and brilliancy was observed, on Friday evening, the 17th inst. by a number of the inhabitants of this and the adjacent towns. It made its appearance, according to the most accurate chronometers, at twenty minutes after nine. A gentleman of this village, standing in his garden, which inclines to the southeast, happened to be looking towards his house, which was northeast from him, and was surprised by a dazzling light of a peculiar hue, proceeding, as he supposed, from the building. Turning his eye round, he saw the object from which the light emanated. The luminary was then, by estimation, 35 or 40 degrees above the horizon, and in an easterly direction from this borough.

It appeared of different magnitudes of different individuals. Some affirm, that its apparent diameter was equal to that of the full moon, which was then rising, but a few degrees from it. Others are of opinion, that it was not more than half as large. If either of these suppositions be near the truth, it

must have been a body of immense size; for its distance was, manifestly, very considerable.

Its descent, many imagined, was in a right line perpendicular to the horizon. But this could not have been. It probably fell in a parabolic curve, or in a figure approaching such a curve. Its velocity we are unable correctly to compute. The celerity of its movement was so great, that no person, with whom we have conversed, has ventured to estimate the length of time, during which it was visible. It could not have been, at most, more than a very few seconds.

We have heard its appearance compared to that of iron in a furnace, the instant it is beginning to fuse. Some say, its light was somewhat different from that afforded by melting iron, but that it was more brilliant.

Three explosions took place, while the meteor was in the heavens. The report was so loud as to be heard by most of the people in this village. The houses were jarred as they are by a slight earthquake. The sound was thought, by some, to resemble that of heavy thunder. By others it was compared to the noise of three cannon discharged in quick succession.

A little before the explosions occurred, or rather before the report was heard, a brisk scintillation, or sparkling, of the meteor was observed. Particles proceeded from the body, and continued luminous till they had arrived at considerable distance from it, but gradually growing less and less vivid, till they disappeared. Many individuals saw the light, who did not see the meteor.

A gentleman belonging to Whiting, states, that he witnessed the phenomenon, during its passage from near the zenith, till it was totally extinguished; that he saw it three times, violently agitated, so, to use his own language, "as to turn over;" that, at each agitation, or leap, its bulk diminished, and that shortly after the third, the luminary wholly disappeared; that, at the time of these agitations, an unusual quantity of light was emitted, and that, in about fifteen minutes, as he believed, after the agitations, he heard three distinct reports. It was probably the light sent forth at the second explosion, which was observed by the gentleman mentioned, who was standing in his garden. He also heard the report, but imagined, that not more than three minutes intervened between the flash and the time the sound reached his ear. Other gentlemen of this village suppose, that the intervening time could not have been short of five minutes.

Though the motion of this, as well as all other meteors, is rapid (and they have been seen to move one thousand miles in a minute,) it is well known that the motion of sound is comparatively slow, passing over less than thirteen miles in a minute. Supposing the intervening time to have been five minutes, the meteor, when it exploded, must have been about sixty-five miles distant from this place. If the interval was

fifteen minutes, its distance must have been about two hundred miles.

We cannot doubt, that, at the moment of the above mentioned agitations, stones, denominated meteoric, were projected from the principal mass, and precipitated to the earth. Such, we believe, is universally the fact with meteors, which explode in the atmosphere. These stones are usually of a globular form, and always covered with a black or deep brown incrustation, composed chiefly of iron. The internal part of the mass is of a grayish colour, and of a coarse, granular texture. Chemical analysis has shown; they are made up principally of iron, sulphur, magnesia, clay, lime, and silex. These stones have fallen in almost every part of the globe, and of all sizes, from that of a pea, to that of a body of several yards in diameter. But one instance of this kind has, to my knowledge, occurred in New-England. This is the meteor, which burst over the town of Weston, in Connecticut, in 1807; an excellent account of which was given to the public by Professors Siliman and Kingsley. The body of it was computed to have been not less than twelve or thirteen hundred feet in diameter.

If stones fell from the body, which we have hastily and very superficially described, we are anxious to know where they fell. We hope to hear something on this subject from our friends in the eastern part of this state, or in New-Hampshire. Should we obtain any additional information, which is interesting, relative to this extraordinary celestial visitor, we shall not fail to communicate it to the public. The above is taken from the mouths of those who witnessed the phenomenon. F. HALL.

In the connexion with the above account of professor Hall, we extract the following description of a similar phenomenon that occurred in Ireland.

Account of a Shower of Meteoric Stones which fell in the County of Limerick. Communicated by William Higgins, Esq.

To Mr. Tilloch.

SIR,

I send you a copy of a letter which I have received from a gentleman of the highest respectability, who was an eye-witness to one of the most remarkable showers of meteoric stones on record. This shower fell in the county of Limerick.

The information with which I present you, was in answer to the following queries, which George Tuthill, Esq. of this city was good enough to transmit to his friend in Limerick, soon after the event occurred.

1. Have any persons seen the stones in the act of falling?
2. How soon after the large stones fell were they discovered? and were they hot?
3. Was the fall accompanied by thunder and lightning; and if so, was there but one clap and one flash, or how many?

4. What was the state of the weather?

5. What is the shape of the larger stones?

6. Have smaller stones fallen at the same time, and at what distance were they found from the larger ones?

7. Were there appearances of recent fractures on the surface of the large masses; and if so, whether those fractures corresponded in shape and number with the small fragments?

In consequence of the foregoing questions, I received the following letter:

“*Limerick.*”

“Sir,—Friday morning, the 10th of September 1813, being very calm and serene, and the sky clear, about nine o'clock a cloud appeared in the east, and very soon after I heard eleven distinct reports, appearing to proceed from thence, somewhat resembling the discharge of heavy artillery. Immediately after this, followed a considerable noise, not unlike the beating of a large drum, which was succeeded by an uproar resembling the continued discharge of musquetry in line. The sky above the place whence this noise appeared to issue, became darkened, and very much disturbed, making a hissing noise; and from thence appeared to issue with great violence, different masses of matter, which directed their course with great velocity in a horizontal direction towards the west. One of these was observed to descend; it fell to the earth, and sunk into it more than a foot and a half, on the lands of Scagh in the neighborhood of Pobuck's Well, in the county of Limerick. It was immediately dug up; and I have been informed by those who were present, and on whom I could rely, that it was then warm, and had a sulphurous smell. It weighed about seventeen pounds, and had no appearance of having been fractured in any part, for the whole of its surface was uniformly smooth and black, as if affected by sulphur or gunpowder. Six or seven more of the same kind of masses, but smaller, and fractured, as if shattered from each other, or from larger ones, descended at the same time, with great velocity, in different places, between the lands of Scagh and the village of Adare. One more very large mass passed with great rapidity and considerable noise at a small distance from me; it came to the ground on the lands of Brasky, and penetrated a very hard and dry earth, about two feet. This was not taken up for two days; it appeared to be fractured in many places, and weighed about sixty-five pounds! Its shape was rather round, but irregular: it cannot be ascertained whether the small fragments which came down at the same time corresponded with the fractures of this large stone in shape or number; but the unfractured part of the surface has the same appearance as the one first mentioned. There fell also, at the same time, on the lands of Faha, another stone, which does not appear to have been part of, or separated from, any other mass: its skin is smooth and

blackish, of the same appearance with the first mentioned, and weighed above twenty-four pounds. Its shape is very irregular. This stone is in my possession, and for its volume is very heavy.

“There was no flash of lightning at the time of, or immediately before or after, the explosion; the day continued very calm and serene; was rather close and sultry, and without wind or rain. It is about three miles in direct line from the lands of Brasky, where the very large stone descended, to the place where the small ones fell in Adare, and all the others fell intermediately; but they appeared to descend horizontally, and as if discharged from a bomb and scattered in the air.

“I am, sir,

“Your obedient servant,
SAM. MAXWELL.”

“WILLIAM HIGGINS, Esq.

“*Dublin Society-House.*”

There is no phenomenon in nature so strange or so difficult to be accounted for, as the existence of meteoric stones in the atmosphere, and the circumstances attending their motion and descent to the earth. The fiery meteors which deposit them are often seen at a considerable height above the clouds, moving in a horizontal direction with great velocity, but gradually approaching towards the earth. When they reach within a certain distance of it, or when they meet with clouds, the phenomena of thunder and lightning are produced, the ignition ceases, and the stones come down, most frequently shattered into masses of different sizes, with the effects of fusion, without exception, on their surface, the fractured parts excepted, although internally they exhibit no such appearance.

In whatever part of the world those stones are found, they exhibit very nearly the same appearance as to colour, texture, fracture, &c. and on analysis give the same ingredients, sometimes varying very little in their proportions.

The stone which fell a few years ago in the county of Tipperary, and which weighed seven pounds and a half, was found by my analysis to consist of the same substances with many which had fallen on different parts of the globe, according to the analyses of Mr. Howard.

The following are the constituents of those stones, viz.

Silex in large quantities.

Magnesia.

Iron in its metallic state.

Nickel in small proportions.

Sulphur and oxide of iron,

As no other mineral substance hitherto discovered on our globe consists of the above ingredients, we must consider them as foreigners. Some philosophers suppose that they are projected from the volcanoes of the moon; that they are projected from the earth by means of volcanoes—that they are produced in the atmosphere by the gradual accumulation of minute and invisible atoms,

&c. But as these speculations are inconsistent with sound philosophy, or even with plausible hypotheses, I shall drop the subject here.

It is supposed by Cladini that they never belonged to any planet, and that they were opaque wandering masses, before they reached the confines of our atmosphere. This, certainly, is the most rational mode of accounting for their presence in the situation in which we first behold them in the atmosphere.

However, to account for their becoming luminous or red hot, when they descend into the upper regions of our atmosphere, regions of eternal frost, has been a desideratum with me, and engaged much of my attention some time past.

These masses, like all other ponderable materials, contain specific heat round their atoms and particles; in moving through the atmosphere they collect electricity; and this continues increasing, as there is no other solid matter in those upper regions to prevent its accumulation.* When they acquire a sufficient quantity of electric matter, the entire or a portion of their specific heat is liberated, and much of it is thrown on their surface; this gives the luminous appearance: as they contain much iron and sulphur, a portion of oxygen unites to their external parts. The degree of heat produced by these different circumstances will account for the superficial fused crust which invariably surrounds these substances. It is probable also, that a quantity of electricity collects round those masses, so as to form a considerable and dense atmosphere, and that this electric atmosphere as they move along, keeps the air in contact with them in a constant blaze.

These electric stones in descending towards the earth, when they meet a cloud comparatively negative, lose a portion of their electricity; which bursting forth with great vehemence exhibits the phenomena of thunder and lightning; at the same time that they are most commonly shattered into pieces. So soon as this takes place, their luminous appearance ceases, their specific heat resumes its former station, and they are precipitated to the earth, still retaining a considerable degree of heat. The stone that fell in the county of Tipperary could not be touched with the hand some time after its descent.

It is somewhat strange that those meteors should be found to move from E. to W. which is contrary to the motions of the earth; unless it had been occasioned by the electrical explosion, which might have scattered the stones in every direction by its violence. It is impossible that such explosions could be produced but by means of electricity.

* The upper part of the atmosphere which extends beyond the reach of clouds, contains a considerable quantity of free electricity, as the phenomenon of the *aurora borealis* sufficiently evinces.

ty; therefore, it appears rather singular that they should not be accompanied with lightning, which is generally the case; but probably the opacity or darkness of the clouds, during the fall in the county of Limerick, rendered it invisible. I am, sir,

Your very humble servant,

W. HIGGINS.

From the Philosophical Magazine.

ON THE KALEIDOSCOPE.

This amusement being now in the hands of almost every person, any description, more particular than what will present itself in the subjoined historical detail, will here be unnecessary.

Dr. Brewster, the patentee of this amusing instrument, is charged by many with being a plagiarist, and claiming that, as a new invention of his own, which is really old, and the discovery of another. We shall lay the grounds of this charge before our readers;—and we begin with some remarks which have appeared in the French Journals:

"Scarcely," says one of them, "had the Kaleidoscope been imported into Paris, when twenty competitors started forward, and each, his glass in his hand, contended for the attention of the public. To the *Kaleidoscope* one opposed the *Polyoscope*; another the *Metamorphosiscope*; and as the great majority of spectators called out for something French, we saw immediately this wish gratified by the *Transfigurateur*, the *French lamp*, &c."

"M. Robertson," a mathematical-instrument maker in Paris, of some eminence, "reclaims for France the priority of this invention. He brings in proof an instrument, of great dimension it is true, but which for many years has furnished in his cabinet the same various pictures which an adroit speculator has introduced into the Kaleidoscope. Thus Professor Brewster of Edinburgh, to whom the English have attributed the honour of this discovery, is nothing more than an imitator. This is not the first time that a French discovery has taken the longest way of arriving at Paris. M. Chevalier too enters the lists; holding in one hand a work, published more than fifty years ago, in which the principle of this agreeable illusion is described, while in the other he presents us a lamp which, by adding much to the magic of the effects, merits truly the name which he gives it of the *French Multiplier*."

However mortifying it may be to our ingenious neighbours, the French, to have their claims to the originality of this invention denied, the fact is, that should the optical principle on which the instrument is founded, and earlier publication, be held to constitute the invention, the discovery will be found to belong to England, notwithstanding the French work "published more than fifty years ago, in which the principle of this agreeable illusion is described;" for

the principle was published in London more than eighty years ago, in a work entitled "*New Improvements of Planting and Gardening, both philosophical and practical, 6th Edition. By Richard Bradley, Professor of Botany at the University of Cambridge, and F. R. S. Printed for J. and J. Knapton, in St Paul's Church-yard, 1731.*" The following is printed from Bradley's first chapter.

"*Description and Use of a new Invention for the more speedily designing of Garden Plats, whereby we may produce more variety of Figures in an Hour's Time, than are to be found in all the Books on Gardening now extant.*

"Since the instrument I now design to treat of has afforded some pleasure to many of my acquaintance, I have been easily persuaded to make it public. It is of that nature, that the best designers or draughtsmen may improve and help their fancies by it, and may with more certainty hit the humour of those gentlemen they are to work for, without being at the trouble of making many varieties of figures or garden plats, which will lose time and call an unnecessary expense, which frequently discourages gentlemen from making up their gardens. In short, the charge of the instrument is so small, and its use so delightful and profitable, that I doubt not its favourable reception in the world. But to proceed :

"We must choose two pieces of looking-glass of equal bigness, of the figure of a long square, five inches in length and four in breadth: they must be covered on the back with paper or silk, to prevent rubbing off the silver, which would else be apt to crack off by frequent use. This covering for the back of the glasses must be so put on that nothing of it may appear about the edges of the bright side.

"The glasses being thus prepared, they must be laid face to face and hinged together, so that they may be made to open and shut at pleasure, like the leaves of a book.

"Draw a large circle upon paper, divide it into 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 equal parts, which being done, we may draw in every one of the divisions a figure at our pleasure, either for garden plats, or fortifications.

"So likewise a pentagon may be perfectly represented by finding the fifth part of a circle, and placing the glasses upon the outlines of it, and the fourth part of a circle will likewise produce a square by means of the glasses, or, by the same rule, will give us any figure of equal sides. I easily suppose that a curious person by a little practice with these glasses may make many improvements with them, which perhaps I may not yet have discovered, or have for brevity's sake omitted to describe.

"It next follows that I explain how by these glasses we may, from the figure of a circle drawn upon paper, make an oval; and also by the same rule, represent a long square, from a perfect square. To do this,

open the glasses and fix them to an exact square: place them over a circle, and move them to and fro till you see the representation of the oval figure you like best; and so having the glasses fixed, in like manner move them over a square piece of work, till you find the figure you desire of a long square."

In the foregoing description of Bradley's invention, the principle of reflection on which he constructs it, is precisely that which Dr. Brewster has employed in his Kaleidoscope; but the means by which the latter presents to the reflecting surfaces the objects that are to be reflected, are quite different. Even with Bradley the kind of objects and the means by which he presented these objects to the mirrors were what constituted his instrument a new invention; for the arrangement of the reflectors themselves was not of Bradley's discovering, as we shall prove immediately.

We copy the following from *John Baptista Porta's Natural Magic*, the English Translation published in 1658.

"*To make a plain Glass that shall represent the Image manifold.*

"A glass is made that will make many representations, that is, that many things may be seen at once; for by opening and shutting it, you shall see twenty fingers for one, and more. You shall make it thus: Raise two brass looking-glasses [metallic mirrors], or of crystal, at right angles upon the same basis, and let them be in a proportion called sesquialtera, that is one and a half, or some other proportion, and let them be joined together longways, that they may be shut and opened, like a book; and the angles be divers, such as are made at Venice: For one face being objected you shall see many in them both, and this by so much the straighter, as you put them together, and the angles are less: but they will be diminished by opening them, and the angles being more obtuse, you shall see the fewer: so showing one figure, there will be more seen: and further, the right parts will show right, and the left to be left, which is contrary to looking-glasses; and this is done by mutual reflection and pulsation, whence ariseth the variety of images interchangeable."

From the foregoing it is manifest whence Bradley derived the principle which he applied to the construction of his instrument, for he borrows the very words of Porta, "*that they (the mirrors) may be shut and opened like a book;*" and hence it follows that if the discovery of the principle cannot be allowed to the French, so neither can it to the English: for Porta's work was first published (at Naples we believe) in 1538, in four books, and 35 years after (that is about the year 1573), in its enlarged form, comprising twenty books. Bradley was not called a plagiarist,—probably because his instrument, though identically the same as

Porta's, was applied in a different way and to a different purpose. Should Dr. Brewster then be considered in that light, for having made use of the same principle in his instrument, which in construction is different from either Porta's or Bradley's? Porta, by looking at objects before him, along the angle formed at the joining of his glasses, saw them multiplied: Bradley, by placing his joined glasses upon his drawings, at right angles to them, and looking at them, in the same manner, saw them multiplied; but the number of reflections could be calculated. Dr. Brewster, by putting the reflectors in a tube, and attaching thereto, and at right angles to them, two discs of glass with objects interposed, forms an optical instrument ca-

pable of producing an incalculable (it not an infinite) number of combinations, by merely making the discs, or the whole instrument, to revolve on its axis, while the eye looks through it. If the previous application of any known principle to the construction of instruments, is to be considered and held as embracing all future applications of the same principle, there can be no new inventions; for to obtain knowledge of a principle, not before known, is a *discovery*, and not an *invention*: no person can invent a principle; but he may apply a principle, when known, to a new purpose, and this new application with the new means employed, is what constitutes a new invention. T.

ART. 12. CABINET OF VARIETIES.

From the London Literary Gazette.

TWELFTH DAY.

TO the rejoicings on New Year's tide succeeded, after a short interval, the observance of the Twelfth Day, so called from its being the twelfth day after the nativity of our Saviour, and the day on which the *Eastern Magi*, guided by the star, arrived at Bethlehem, to worship the infant Jesus.

This festive day, the most celebrated of the twelve for the peculiar conviviality of its rites, has been observed in this kingdom ever since the reign of Alfred, "in whose days," says Collier, "a law was made with relation to holidays, by virtue of which, the *twelve days after the Nativity of our Saviour* were made Festivals."

In consequence of an idea which seems generally to have prevailed, that the *Eastern Magi* were kings, this day has been frequently termed the *feast of the three kings*; and many of the rites with which it is attended, are founded on this conception; for it was customary to elect, from the company assembled on this occasion, a king or queen, who was usually elevated to this rank by the fortuitous division of a cake, containing a bean, or piece of coin; and he or she to whom this symbol of distinction fell, in dividing the cake, was immediately chosen king or queen, and then forming their ministers or court from the company around, maintained their state and character until midnight.

The *Twelfth Cake* was almost always accompanied by the *Wassail Bowl*, a composition of spiced wine or ale, or mead, or metheglin, into which was thrown roasted apples, sugar, &c. The term *Wassail*, which in our elder poets is connected with much interesting imagery, and many curious rites, appears to have been first used in this island during the well-known interview between Vortigern and Rowena. Geoffrey

of Monmouth relates, on the authority of Walter Calenius, that this lady, the daughter of Hengist, knelt down, on the approach of the king, and presenting him with a cup of wine, exclaimed, "Lord King *Was heil*," that is, literally, "Health be to you." Vortigern being ignorant of the Saxon language, was informed by an interpreter, that the purport of these words was to wish him health, and that he should reply by the expression, *drinc-heil*, or "drink the health:" accordingly, on his so doing, Rowena drank, and the king receiving the cup from her hand, kissed and pledged her.

'Health, my Lord King,' the sweet Rowena said;
'Health,' cried the chieftain to the Saxon maid;
Then gaily rose, and 'mid the concourse wide,
Kiss'd her hale lips, and placed her by his side.
At the soft scene, such gentle thoughts abound,
That healths and kisses 'mongst the guests went round:

From this the social custom took its rise;
We still retain, and still must keep the prize.

Paraphrase of Robert of Gloucester.

Since this period, observes the historian, the custom has prevailed in Britain of using these words whilst drinking; the person who drank to another saying *was-heil*, and he who received the cup answering *drinc-heil*.

It soon afterwards became a custom in villages on Christmas-eve, New Year's Eve, and Twelfth Night, for itinerant minstrels to carry to the houses of the gentry and others, where they were generally very hospitably received, a bowl of spiced wine, which being presented with the Saxon words just mentioned, was therefore called a *Wassail-bowl*. A bowl or cup of this description was also to be found in almost every nobleman's or gentleman's house, (and frequently of massy silver,) until the middle of the seventeenth century, and which was in perpetual requisition during the revels of Christmas."

[Hence we have the word *Wassel*, synonymous for carousing and jovialty.]

During the reigns of Elizabeth and James I. the celebration of the Twelfth Night was, equally with Christmas Day, a festival through the land, and was observed with great ostentation and ceremony in both the Universities, at court, at the Temple, and at Lincoln's and Gray's-inn. Many of the masques of Ben Jonson were written for the amusement of the royal family on this night; and Dugdale in his *Origines Judiciales*, has given us a long and particular account of the revelry at the Temple on each of the twelve days of Christmas, in the year 1562. It appears from this document, that the hospitable rites of St. Stephen's day, St. John's day, and Twelfth day, were ordered to be exactly alike; and as many of them are in their nature, perfectly rural, and where there is every reason to suppose, observed to a certain extent in the halls of the country gentry and substantial yeomanry, a short record here, of those that fall under this description, cannot be deemed inapposite.

The breakfast on Twelfth Day is directed to be of brawn, mustard, and malmsey; the dinner of two courses to be served in the hall, and after the first course "cometh in the master of the game, apparelled in green veluet; and the Ranger of the Forest also, in a green suit of satten; bearing in his hand a green bow and divers arrows, with either of them a hunting horn about their necks: blowing together three blasts of venery, they pace around about the fire three times. Then the master of the game maketh three curtesies," kneels down, and petitions to be admitted into the service of the lord of the feast.

This ceremony performed, a huntsman cometh into the hall, with a fox and a purse-net, with a cat, both bound at the end of a staff; and with them nine or ten couple of hounds, with the blowing of hunting-horns. And the fox and cat are by the hounds set upon, and killed beneath the fire. This sport finished, the marshal, an officer so called, who, with many others of different appellations, were created for the purpose of conducting the revels, placeth them in their several appointed places.

After the second course, the "ancientest of the masters of the revels singeth a song, with the assistance of others there present;" and after some repose and revels, supper, consisting of two courses, is then served in the hall, and being ended, "the marshal presenteth himself with drums afore him mounted upon a scaffold, borne by four men; and goeth three times round about the harthe, crying out aloud, 'a lord, a lord,' &c. then he descendeth, and goeth to dance.

"This done, the lord of Misrule addresseth himself to the banquet; which endeth with some minstralsye, mirth and dancing, every man departeth to rest."

Harrick, who was the contemporary of Shakespeare for the first twenty-five years of his life, that is, from 1591 to 1616, has given us the following curious and pleasing

account of the ceremonies of Twelfth Night, as we may suppose them to have been observed in almost every private family.

TWELFTH NIGHT,

OR KING AND QUEEN.

Now, now the mirth comes,
With the cake full of plums,
Where Beane's the king of the sport here;
Beside, we must know,
The Pea also
Must revell, as Queene, in the court here.

Begin then to chuse,
This night as ye use,
Who shall for the present delight here,
Be the King by the lot,
And who shall not
Be Twelfe-day Queene for the night here.

Which knowne, let us make
Joy sops with the cake;
And let not a man then be seen here,
Who unwig'd will not drinke
To the base from the brink
A health to the King and the Queene here.

Next crowne the bowle full
With gentle lambs-wooll;
Adde sugar, nutmeg and ginger,
With store of ale too;
And thus we must doe
To make the Wassaile a swinger.

Give then to the King
And Queene wassailing;
And though with all ye be whet here,
Yet part ye from hence,
And free from offence,
As when ye innocent met here
Herrick's Hesperides.

ANECDOTE OF THE EMPEROR JOSEPH II.

The Emperor Joseph II. heard every body who pretended to discover to him any thing useful. By this means he often lost much precious time.

Baron Calisius once begged an audience to propose to the Emperor a matter of great importance; it was granted him: the conversation was as follows—

Calisius. The city of Comorn in Hungary has the misfortune to be visited nearly every five years by earthquakes, which have often occasioned great damage, and still expose it to the utmost danger, and threaten it with total destruction. Now I have remarked, that in Egypt there never were nor are any earthquakes. But as Egypt differs from other countries only in having pyramids, it follows that pyramids must be sure preventatives of earthquakes.

The Emperor. So then it would be good to build some of these edifices in Hungary?

Calisius. This is my humble proposal, and I here present your majesty a plan how they may be erected.

The Emperor. But have you calculated the expence?

Calisius. No: but I believe for three or four hundred thousand florins two handsome pyramids might be built; a little smaller indeed than those in Egypt.

The Emperor. Has the city of Comorn so much money?

Calisius. No, but I hope your Majesty will contribute, and the rest might perhaps be raised by a subscription.

The Emperor. Well, I have nothing against it. If a suitable place can be found, which is fit for nothing else, and you will undertake the work on subscription, begin to build as soon as you please; but I cannot fix the amount of my subscription before I see at least one pyramid quite finished.

ANECDOTE OF A RUSSIAN PRINCESS.

Many of our readers are doubtless acquainted with the name of the Swiss doctor Michael Schuppach, of Lengnau, in the Emmenthal, who was highly celebrated, and much in vogue in the last century. He is mentioned by Archdeacon Coxe, in his Travels in Switzerland, who himself consulted him. There was a time when people of distinction and fortune came to him, particularly from France and Germany, and even from more distant countries; and innumerable are the cures which he performed upon patients given up by the regular physicians. There were once assembled in Michael Schuppach's laboratory, a great many distinguished persons from all parts of the world; partly to consult him, and partly out of curiosity; and among them many French ladies and gentlemen, and a Russian prince, with his daughter, whose singular beauty attracted general attention. A young French marquis attempted, for the amusement of the ladies, to display his wit on the miraculous Doctor; but the latter, though not much acquainted with the French language, answered so pertinently, that the marquis had not the laugh on his side. During this conversation, an old peasant entered, meanly dressed, with a snow white beard, a neighbour of Schuppach's. Schuppach directly turned away from his great company, to his old neighbour, and hearing that his wife was ill, set about preparing the necessary medicine for her, without paying much attention to his more exalted guests, whose business he did not think so pressing. The marquis was now deprived of one subject of his wit, and therefore chose for his butt the old man, who was waiting while his neighbour Michael was preparing something for his old Mary. After many silly jokes on his long white beard, he offered a wager of twelve louis d'ors, that none of the ladies would kiss the old dirty looking fellow. The Russian princess hearing these words, made a sign to her attendant, who brought her a plate. The princess put twelve louis d'ors on it, and had it carried to the marquis, who of course could not decline adding twelve others. Then the fair Russian went

up to the old peasant with the long beard, and said, "Permit me, venerable father, to salute you after the fashion of my country." Saying this, she embraced him, and gave him a kiss. She then presented him the gold which was on the plate, with these words, "Take this as a remembrance of me, and as a sign that the Russian girls think it their duty to honour old age."

AN ANCIENT CROWN DISCOVERED IN SCLAVONIA.

On the 23d of last March, in making a road at Mallier, a little village in Slavonia, as the wife of a soldier named Gasparowich, was turning up a clod with her pickaxe, she found, about two inches deep under ground, a piece of metal rolled up, which she took for iron, and threw it into the road. At a second stroke she discovered the basket-formed vessel; which, in the opinion of all who have considered it with attention, is supposed to be a crown. It consists of two parallel circles of strong gold wire twisted together, which are about four inches asunder, and connected by a spiral ornament in this form \times . The inside of the crown, shaped like a hat, consists of a braid of the same kind of gold, which surrounds a net button in the middle, in rose-shaped braids. The whole weighs a little more than 24 ounces. The diameter is equal to that of a small hat.

As the workmen's attention was attracted to this valuable relic, it was soon discovered that the whole mass was gold. By chance a corporal came up, who gave notice of it to the captain. Immediately on the following morning, the ground in that place was dug up five or six fathoms, and carefully examined; but nothing farther was discovered. Since the 25th of October, the crown has been at Vienna, and it is not doubted but that this curiosity will be delivered to the Imperial Treasury or Museum.

THE DOG MIME.

Who has not heard of the celebrated piece called *The Forest of Bondy*, and of the applause which the dog of D'Aubry has obtained in Paris, London, Vienna, Munich, Dresden, Berlin, Leipzig, Cassel, &c.? There is nothing new under the sun: see what Plutarch relates—*de solertia animalium*!

I must not pass over an example of canine ingenuity of which I was witness at Rome. A mime, who performed a complicated piece, in which there were many characters, had a dog with him, which made all kinds of gesticulations necessary for the representation. He afforded a striking proof of his talents, after taking poison, which was to produce sleep and then death. He took the bread in which the poison was given him, and, after he had eaten it, he pretended to tremble, to stagger, and to become giddy;

and then he stretched himself out as if dead, and let himself be pulled and dragged along as the progress of the piece required. When, from the dialogue and action, he saw that the moment was come, he began to move himself by degrees, as if he awoke out of a profound sleep, raised his head, and looked about him; he then approached the person required by his part, and evinced his joy by his caresses, to the great astonishment of all the spectators, and even of the old Emperor Vespasian, who was at the time in the Theatre Marcellus.

ANTIQUÉ RING.

The Roman Gazette relates, on the authority of letters from Greece, that a countryman, in the neighbourhood of Corinth, lately struck with his ploughshare against a metal vessel, which contained several ancient coins, and a ring, with an agate of the size of half a *saldo*. On this agate the naked eye could discover nothing but some very small strokes. A learned traveller purchased the ring, and by the aid of a microscope discovered a most admirable work of art. On the upper side of the stone he found a group of gods, distinguishable by their attributes; and on the lower side, Achilles dragging the dead body of Hector behind his chariot. This discovery affords a fresh proof of the great superiority of the ancients to the moderns in works of this kind.

ANECDOTE OF CHRISTIAN IV. KING OF DENMARK.

Christopher Rosenkranz, in Copenhagen, demanded from the widow of Christian Tuul a debt of 5000 dollars. She was certain that she owed him nothing. But he produced a bond signed by herself and her deceased husband; she declared the bond to be forged. The affair was brought before a court of justice. The widow was condemned to pay the demand. In her distress she

applied to king Christian IV. and said that neither she nor her husband had signed the pretended bond. His majesty promised to take her affair into consideration. He sent for Rosenkranz, questioned him closely, begged, exhorted, but all to no purpose. The creditor appealed to his written bond. The king asked for the bond, sent Rosenkranz away, and promised that he would very soon return it to him. The king remained alone, to examine this important paper, and discovered, after much trouble, that the paper-manufacturer, whose mark was on the bond, had began his manufactory many years after its date. The inquiries made confirmed this fact. The proof against Rosenkranz was irrefragable. The king said nothing about it: sent for Rosenkranz some days after, and exhorted him in the most affecting manner, to have pity on the poor widow, because otherwise the justice of Heaven would certainly punish him for such wickedness. He unblushingly insisted on his demand, and even presumed to affect to be offended. The king's mildness went so far, that he still gave him several days for consideration. But all to no purpose. He was arrested, and punished with all the rigour of the laws.

ANECDOTE. PRESENCE OF MIND.

As the well known Dr. Barth preached for the first time in his native city of Leipzig, he disdained the usual precaution of having his sermon placed in the Bible before him, to refer to in case of need. A violent thunder-storm arising just as he was in the middle of his discourse, and a tremendous clap caused him to lose the thread of his argument, with great composure and dignity he shut the Bible, saying with emphasis, "*When God speaks, man must hold his peace:*" he then came down from the pulpit, and the whole congregation looked on him with admiration and wonder, as a mighty pillar of the church.

ART. 15. REPORT OF DISEASES.

Report of Diseases treated at the Public Dispensary, New-York, during the month of June, 1818.

ACUTE DISEASES.

FEBRIS Intermittens, (*Intermittent Fever*), 5; Febris Remittens, (*Remittent Fever*), 7; Febris Continua, (*Continued Fever*), 29; Febris Infantum Remittens, (*Infantile Remittent Fever*), 7; Phlegmone, 2; Ophthalmia, (*Inflammation of the Eyes*), 4; Cynanche Tonsillaris, 2; Pneumonia (*Inflammation of the Chest*), 15; Pneumonia Typhodes, (*Typhoid Pneumony*), 4; Pertussis, (*Whooping Cough*), 8; Hepatitis, (*Inflammation of the Liver*), 2; Rheumatismus Acutus, 1; Icterus, (*Jaundice*), 1; Cholera Morbus, 2; Dys-

enteria, (*Dysentery*), 3; Rubella, (*Measles*), 1; Erysipelas, (*St. Anthony's Fire*), 2; Vaccinia, (*King Pock*), 31; Convulsio, (*Convulsions*), 1.

CHRONIC AND LOCAL DISEASES.

Asthenia, (*Debility*), 8; Vertigo, 3; Cephalalgia, (*Head-Ach*), 5; Dyspepsia, (*Indigestion*), 6; Obstipatio, 13; Colica, 2; Paralysis, 1; Hysteria, 1; Menorrhagia, 1; Hæmorrhoids, 2; Diarrhœa, 6; Leucorrhœa, 2; Amenorrhœa, 4; Ischuria, (*Suppression of Urine*), 2; Ophthalmia Chronica, 3; Bronchitis Chronica, 3; Phthisis Pulmonalis, (*Pulmonary Consumption*), 7; Rheumatismus Chronicus, 5; Pleurodynia, 2; Lumbago, 2; Nephralgia, 1; Plethora, 3; Anasarca,

(Dropsy,) 1; Hydrothorax, (Dropsy of the Chest,) 1; Scrophula, (King's Evil,) 1; Tumor, 1; Hernia, 1; Exostosis, 1; Vermes, (Worms,) 4; Syphilis, 4; Urethritis Virulenta, 3; Paraphymosis, 1; Contusio, (Bruise,) 6; Stemma, (Sprain,) 2; Fractura, 1; Vulnus, 6; Abscessus, 2; Ulcus, 8; Strophulus, 2; Psoriasis, 1; Erythema, 2; Herpes, 2; Scabies et Prurigo, 14; Porrigo, 3; Eruptiones Variæ, 4.

The weather of this month has been generally fair, and the temperature more elevated than usual:—winds chiefly between southeast and southwest. The quantity of rain has been small, not exceeding 2 1-2 inches on a level; what did fall was principally in refreshing showers, sometimes attended with lightning, seldom with thunder. On the 28th the mercury in Fahrenheit's thermometer stood at 90° in the shade, on the 29th at 92°, and on the 30th it attained to the height of 93 1-2 degrees. On ten other days it was between 81 and 86°. The thermometrical range of this interval has been from 55 to 92 1-2 degrees. Average temperature for the whole month 73°. Greatest variation in twenty-four hours 21°. Lowest temperature at 7 o'clock in any one morning 55°, highest 76°; lowest temperature in any afternoon 65°, highest 93 1-2°; lowest temperature at sunset of any day 62°, highest 89°.—Barometrical range from 29.58 to 30.08 inches.—The season, which at the commencement of this month was deemed backward, is now sufficiently advanced, and vegetation in general presents a highly luxuriant aspect.

During this interval, the city has been on the whole healthy. The effects of disease on the human constitution have offered little that is remarkable. Since the commencement of summer, inflammatory affections of the organs concerned in respiration have much declined; but *pertussis* still continues to prevail among children, and *fevers*, particularly of the remittent and typhoid kind, have been more common than in the preceding month. The cases of *typhus*, which occurred during the vernal period, were mostly of the mild sort, denominated *typhus mitior*; but in this month the complaint has shown symptoms of degeneracy, in some cases wearing from its commencement the physiognomy of danger.

Attention to the stomach and bowels constitutes an important step in the management of typhoid fever. On the invasion of the complaint, an emetic, followed by a warm sudorific, and in a few hours by a proper aperient, commonly has the effect of disarming the fever of its severity; and, in some instances, totally extinguishes the disease. Without this preliminary step, cor-

dials, tonics, or drugs thrown into the already oppressed or polluted stomach, will either be ejected, or will have the effect of increasing the general irritation, and aggravating the very symptoms they were intended to relieve.

During the few hot days at the conclusion of this month, several persons among the labouring poor, and particularly strangers lately arrived from the northern parts of Europe, and who as yet were unaccustomed to the occasional intense heats of our climate, suffered from the imprudent use of cold water. Some perished; but the greater part were recovered by the internal use of laudanum and brandy, by spiritous fomentations to the region of the stomach and bowels; and in cases where there was any excitement or determination to the head, by the use of the lancet.

Some cases of bilious vomiting, of cholera, and of diarrhœa have been observed. These, to a limited extent, are doubtless salutary, being an effort of nature to free the stomach and bowels from a quantity of colluvies or offensive materials.

The New-York Bills of Mortality for June report 219 deaths; from

Abscess, 2; Apoplexy, 2; Asthma, 1; Cancer, 1; Caries, 1; Casualty, 1; Child-bed, 1; Cholera Morbus, 2; Consumption, 42; Contusion, 1; Convulsions, 8; Cramp in the Stomach, 1; Diarrhœa, 2; Drinking Cold Water, 5; Dropsy, 3; Dropsy in the Chest, 4; Dropsy in the Head, 10; Drowned, 9; Dysentery, 1; Dyspepsia, 1; Erysipelas, 1; Fever, 1; Fever, Intermittent, 2; Fever, Remittent, 2; Fever, Typhoid, 41; Fistula in perineo, 1; Fracture, 1; Gravel, 1; Hemorrhage, 1; Hives, 1; Hooping Cough, 9; Hysteria, 1; Infanticide, 2; Inflammation of the Chest, 8; Inflammation of the Bowels, 5; Inflammation of the Liver, 2; Insanity, 3; Intemperance, 1; Locked Jaw, 1; Mortification, 2; Nervous Disease, 1; Old Age, 2; Palsy, 1; Pneumonia Typhodes, 1; Scalded, 1; Scrophula, or King's Evil, 1; Small Pox, 1; Still-born, 13; Sudden Death, 1; Suicide, 2; Tabes Mesenterica, 3; Teething, 2; Ulcer, 2; Unknown, 3; Worms, 3.—Total 219.

Of this number there died 47 of and under the age of 1 year; 10 between 1 and 2 years; 11 between 2 and 5; 3 between 5 and 10; 14 between 10 and 20; 26 between 20 and 30; 38 between 30 and 40; 40 between 40 and 50; 19 between 50 and 60; 6 between 60 and 70; and 6 between 70 and 80.

JACOB DYCKMAN, M.D.
New-York, June 30th, 1818